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توزيع: مؤسسة العربية للكتاب

NO 7147 SUNDAY, JANUARY 17, 1988 JAMADI AL-AWWAL 27, 1408 AH 16 PAGES 150 FLS

Mubarak back home after Gulf swing

CAIRO, Jan 16, (Agencies): President Hosni Mubarak returned home today after briefing Jordan's King Hussein on the outcome of a Gulf swing during which he sought to unify Arab stands on the Gulf war and the Palestinian problem, the Middle East News Agency said.

Earlier today Mubarak flew to Jordan from Baghdad, Iraq.

A senior Jordanian cabinet minister said the importance of the Aqaba talks lay in their timing — Mubarak starts a tour of European capitals next week before a state visit to Washington.

"He and the King will be trying to consolidate the joint Arab stand adopted at the Amman summit," the minister, who asked not to be named, told Reuters.

The Arab summit in November condemned Iran for its failure to obey a UN Security Council ceasefire order, endorsed the idea of an international Middle East peace conference and allowed Arab states to renew ties with Egypt.

Pledged

Before his stop in Baghdad, Mubarak had visited all six GCC states and pledged Egypt's support if Iran threatened their security.

During his Gulf tour Mubarak was reported to have reviewed contingency plans to counter an Iranian threat, but Egyptian officials said he was not asked to send troops to the area.

Apart from the Gulf, the Egyptian and Jordanian leaders were also expected to discuss

(Continued on Page 2)

UN envoy condemns harsh Israeli measures

LONDON, Jan 16, (Agencies): United Nations envoy Marrack Gouding accused Israel today of using "unduly harsh" methods to restore order in the riot-torn West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The UN undersecretary-general also blamed the Israeli government for pursuing policies he said had created "despair" and "hopelessness" among Palestinian refugees and led to violence.

Gouding made the remarks in an interview with the BBC's World Service radio network in the Israeli-occupied territories where he is investigating living conditions in Palestinian refugee camps.

The interview was taped hours before the envoy narrowly missed being caught up in rioting in a West Bank refugee camp.

Accused

Gouding acknowledged Israel's right to maintain order in the occupied territories, but accused the security forces of over-reacting in quelling Palestinian demonstrations.

"What we are complaining about is first of all the methods that are being used to maintain law and order, which I think in the judgment of the whole of the international community has been unduly harsh and has been disproportionate to the threat posed by the demonstrators," he said.

"Secondly, and on a rather wider basis, we are very concerned about the despair that exists amongst the Palestinian population in the occupied territories, the feeling they have that there is no peace process under way, that their land is being gradually taken away through the Israeli settlement and other policies of the Israeli government, that there is economic discrimination against them."

He said it was the feeling of hopelessness among Palestinians, "especially in the refugee camps — their conditions are pretty bad — which has led to this kind of crisis."

Israeli troops were out in force in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip today, but few incidents were reported one day



Palestinians run away to avoid the tear gas fired by Israeli troops on Jerusalem's Temple Mount on Friday. (Reuters wirephoto)

Siamese twins inoperable

Deformed hearts dash all hopes of survival

By Jadranka Porter

A SERIES of cardiac checks which revealed severe deformities in Siamese twins born in Kuwait last week dashed hopes of their survival. The twins yesterday underwent seven hours of highly specialised examinations at the Chest Diseases Hospital with doctors trying to find a way of saving the life of at least one girl through surgery, which was tentatively scheduled for today.

But at 5.00 pm yesterday they were forced to concede they were helpless and pronounce the twins "case as inoperable."

Ventilation

"This is such a complicated cardiac case that nothing can be done for them, neither here nor anywhere else in the world," said Atef Fouda, consultant anaesthetist at Ibn Sina hospital.

The twins are kept alive artificially by mechanical ventilation and intravenous feeding and disappointed doctors have adopted a "wait and see" attitude.

The specialised tests which included ultrasonography and cardio-catheterisation revealed that each of the girls has a heart which consists of three instead of four chambers. The three chambers are two auricles and one ventricle, which in the case of baby Number Two is extremely small.

Both hearts are wrapped in one sack but the wall separating the two auricles is perforated which means that oxygenated blood could not be separated from non-oxygenated, rendering the hearts useless. Each baby has an aorta and a pulmonary artery.

(Continued on Page 4)

Japanese tanker ablaze after Iranian attack

MANAMA, Jan 16, (Agencies): Iranian speedboats pumped rocket-propelled grenades into a Japanese chemical tanker in the Strait of Hormuz today, starting a fierce fire that forced the evacuation of most of the crew, shipping officials said.

At least two powerful launches swept over the southern Gulf from a Revolutionary Guard base at Abu Musa island and opened fire on the 12,467-ton Rainbow.

The attack ignited a raging fire amid fears the Liberian-flagged vessel's cargo of inflammable chemicals would explode. But no casualties immediately were reported. It was the fourth such attack by Iran on Gulf shipping in three days.

Crew

Shipping sources said most of the crew was taken off the Japanese-owned tanker while it was in Omani waters. Only a few officers were left on board to prevent the vessel drifting out of control.

A gunboat from Oman evidently ferried the crewmen off the burning tanker, the sources said. Lloyds of London shipping intelligence unit said various foreign warships also were in attendance. The Pentagon said it had no knowledge whether any US warships were involved. British and US vessels have been more active in assisting vessels not flying their flags in recent weeks.

Three fire-fighting tugs raced to the scene and extinguished the fire after several hours, the sources said.

It was not clear if the vessel was in international waters when it was attacked.

Sultanate of Oman has a policy of providing humanitarian assistance to ships in distress. Its Coast Guard helped another stricken tanker Friday.

Iranian speedboats on Friday ignited a fire aboard a Norwegian ship laden with liquid petroleum gas and then shelled an empty Liberian-registered Dutch tanker.

A few hours earlier a spokesman for the Iraqi Armed Forces in Baghdad said Iraqi warplanes attacked two tankers in Iranian service.



Pirzada holds talks with Amir

By Hamid Siddiqui

THE Organisation of Islamic Conference Secretary-General Syed Sharifuddin Pirzada strongly denounced the oppressive measures taken by the Israeli authorities in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip against the Palestinian people in order to quell the popular uprising going on there for the past 40 days.

Speaking to reporters at the Kuwait International Airport last night before flying to Jeddah, Pirzada said Kuwaiti proposal to convene an OIC bureau meeting is under active consideration and the plan will be made public as soon as it is finalised.

Pirzada who arrived in Kuwait on Friday night on a short visit, said he exchanged views with HH the Amir — the current chairman of the OIC — all the issues concerning the Islamic world. These, he said, included the current Palestinian uprising in the occupied Arab territories, developments in the Iraq-Iran war, and the Afghanistan problem.

Briefed

"I also briefed HH the Amir on the deliberations of the Al Quds Committee which met in Morocco under the chairmanship of King Hassan," Pirzada said.

On the Gulf war, Pirzada said the OIC is also contributing to the current diplomatic efforts for bringing about an end to this destructive war.

"All the efforts being exerted by the OIC, the Arab League and the Gulf Cooperation Council are supplementary to each other within the framework of UN Security Council resolution 598."

Asked about the prospects for an end to the Iraq-Iran war, Pirzada said: "Let us hope for the best."

He said 1987 was the year of Islamic solidarity beginning with the OIC summit in Kuwait. The second major step in this direction, he said, was taken at the extraordinary Arab summit held in Amman in November followed by the 8th summit of the GCC leaders in Riyadh.

Pirzada will participate in the UN Security Council debate on the situation in the occupied Arab territories, expected to take place this week.

Pirzada was seen off at the airport by the Undersecretary of the Foreign Ministry Suleiman Majed Al-Shaheen and the Pakistani Ambassador Khaled Saleem.

Business survey on Japan

Arab Times will publish a 16-page supplement on Japan tomorrow.

INSIDE

International	2
Kuwait-Gulf	3,4
Events	5
Editorials	6
Pictures	7
Features	8,9
Business	10,11
Classifieds	12
Urdu	13,14
Sports	15,16

امریکی ہوائی جہاز کی کڑی دیکھ بھال سے بات چیت

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WEATHER

CLOUDY, to partly cloudy weather with moderate southeasterly wind and a chance for rain later.

State of sea: Moderate to rough

High water: 9.00 am, 12.00 pm

Low water: 3.00 am, 4.00 pm

Sunrise: 6.43 am

Sunset: 5.13 pm

Maximum temperature recorded: Kuwait: 17°C 63°F

Amman: 17°C 63°F

Fallak: 16°C 61°F

Maximum temperature expected: Kuwait: 16°C 61°F

Amman: 15°C 59°F

Fallak: 15°C 59°F

Minimum temperature recorded: Kuwait: 9°C 48°F

Amman: 9°C 48°F

Fallak: 9°C 48°F

Minimum temperature expected: Kuwait: 9°C 48°F

Amman: 9°C 48°F

Fallak: 9°C 48°F

South and N.Korea exchange threats

SEOUL, Jan 16, (Reuters): South Korea launched a diplomatic offensive against the communist North today as Pyongyang continued to deny it was behind the bombing of a Southern airliner with 115 people on board.

North Korea also threatened "decisive retaliation" against "provocation" from the South.

South Korean Foreign Minister Choi Kwang-Soo vowed the South would make every possible diplomatic effort to punish Pyongyang for the destruction of the plane.

A woman who said she was a North Korean agent confessed at a televised news conference yesterday that she had helped plant the bomb on board a Seoul-bound Korean Air Lines jet on Nov 29.

Issued

Choi said Seoul was withdrawing guidelines issued in Sept 1987 which allowed South Korean diplomats to talk more freely to North Koreans at diplomatic functions.

Assistant Foreign Minister Park Soo-Gil said Seoul had also asked Japan to cut "all its human

Arms cut prospects may be wrecked: Gorbachev

Star Wars: a bottleneck

MOSCOW, Jan 16, (Reuters): Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev has signalled the US "Star Wars" anti-missile defence project could wreck prospects for cuts in strategic weaponry.

The Kremlin message was delivered in a speech reported by the official Tass news agency today to members of a new international committee on the survival of humanity.

"If the arms race moves out into space, it would bring destabilisation and that is why as a matter of principle it is impossible to agree with such a thought," he said.

View

"Our view is that... it is impossible to work on disarmament in some areas and extend the arms race in others," Gorbachev added in what analysts said was a clear reference to Star Wars, formally known as the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI).

Tass said he delivered the speech on Friday.

Gorbachev's remarks came as talks were resuming between the superpowers in Geneva on a so-called Start treaty to reduce their arsenals of intercontinental missiles by 50 per cent.

At their summit in Washington last month, he and President Reagan agreed to work for completion of the treaty for signing at a return summit in Moscow, probably in late spring.

Moscow presented a new draft accord in Geneva on Friday but a US spokesman rejected it, saying it appeared aimed at crippling SDI. Reagan has insisted he will pursue the programme, despite Soviet objections.

At a Moscow news conference earlier today, senior Soviet official representing the Foreign Ministry and the armed forces expressed optimism that a Start accord could be reached.

Gorbachev told the new com-

Iran agrees to talks with GCC

NICOSIA, Jan 16, (Reuters): Iran said today it had agreed to a proposal for dialogue by the six Gulf Arab states, which generally support Iraq in the war.

The Iranian news agency Irna, said Tehran's reply to the proposal by the GCC was relayed to the UAE Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rashid Abdullah.

Irna said the reply was delivered by Mohammed Hussein Lavasani, Director-General for Arab and African Affairs in Iranian Foreign Ministry.

"The two sides also agreed that such contacts between the six GCC member states should continue in seven-sided sessions," Irna said.

New minister

BAGHDAD, Jan 16, (Reuters): President Saddam Hussein issued a decree today appointing Akram Abdul Qader Ali, to head Iraq's Justice Ministry.

Tamil rebel leader appeals for peace

NEW DELHI, Jan 16, (Reuters): The leader of Sri Lanka's Tamil Tiger guerrilla group has appealed to the Indian government to halt military operations against the rebels and open peace talks.

In a letter to Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi dated Jan 13 but released in Madras today by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), Velupillai Prabhakaran pledged the group's readiness to lay down its weapons in Sri Lanka.

But the Peace Trust of India said the offer was conditional on an interim administration being formed in northern Sri Lanka with a majority role for the LTTE.

In another suggestion, rejected by New Delhi in the past, Prabhakaran said peace would be helped by the withdrawal of Indian peacekeeping troops in Sri Lanka to positions they held before their offensive against the Tigers began last October.



Chirac

Chirac announces candidacy for presidency

PARIS, Jan 16, (Reuters): Prime Minister Jacques Chirac, hoping to overcome a poor showing in opinion polls, set France's presidential election in motion today by announcing he would be a candidate in the vote this spring.

"I accepted to head the government in order to begin the necessary recovery of our country," Chirac said in a brief televised address from the prime minister's office. "Today the conditions are right to move to a new phase."

Chirac, 55, is the first of the major contenders to enter the race. The two-round election is expected to be held on April 24 and May 8.

Opinion polls put him in the third place behind Socialist President Francois Mitterrand, who has not said whether he will seek re-election, and rightist rival Raymond Barre, a former prime minister.

Political analysts said Chirac, an energetic campaigner whose political style has earned him the nickname of "The Bulldozer," hoped to unseat Mitterrand and Barre by opening his campaign early.

In the last presidential election in 1981, Chirac won 17.99 per cent of the vote in the first round before withdrawing. Mitterrand defeated the rightist incumbent, Valery Giscard d'Estaing, in the run-off.

Chirac said his campaign would focus on youth, unemployment and preparing France for the single European market which will take shape when trade barriers in the 12-nation European Economic Community are abolished in 1992.

Poll

According to an opinion poll published today, 100 days ahead of the poll, 41 per cent of respondents said they would vote for Mitterrand on the first ballot. Barre would get 25 per cent of the vote and Chirac 18.5 per cent.

Chirac has pledged to govern right up to the election, despite the prospect of new tensions with Mitterrand in the campaign.

US studying Indo-Soviet submarine deal

WASHINGTON, Jan 16. (AP): The US government is studying a leasing arrangement reached between India and the Soviet Union for a nuclear-powered submarine, the State Department said last night.

The Soviet news agency Tass announced last week that the Soviets, India's main weapons supplier, would lend the submarine to the Indians for training purposes.

"We are studying the implications of this development, the leasing of this nuclear-powered submarine from the USSR, which clearly introduces a new weapons technology into the South Asian region," said State Department spokesman Charles Redman.

"We are discussing this with the governments concerned, and seeking further information," he added.

Clarifications

The United States has asked India for clarifications and the subject was also broached by US Ambassador-at-large Richard Kennedy at this week's round of nuclear non-proliferation consultations with the Soviet Union in Geneva, Redman said.

Another official, said the United States knows the submarine will not carry any weapons, in keeping with the Soviet and Indian assurances. But he added that it could be harnessed for the production of such weapons.

The United States opposes the Soviet-Indian arrangement because it objects to any transfer of nuclear power reactors to countries lacking appropriate safeguards, Redman said.

India refuses to sign the international Non-Proliferation Treaty, which would open installations to international supervision and obligate it to maintain certain safeguards.

Reagan free of cancer

WASHINGTON, Jan 16. President Reagan, buoyed in spirit by heady news on the US trade balance, has received a clean bill of health from his doctors after a semi-annual medical checkup.

The doctors said the results of Reagan's four-hour physical examination on Friday showed that the country's oldest President was fit and free of the cancer which caused him to have major intestinal surgery in 1985.

"The tests indicate the President is in excellent health," Army Colonel John Hutton, the White House physician, said in a statement after the 76-year-old President had completed his twice-yearly checkup.

Hutton said doctors had found no polyps — tiny growths excised from Reagan's colon during each previous physical since his cancer operation two and one-half years ago — and he said other tests, including a cat-scan, chest X-ray and stress test were normal.

US response 'inadequate' on halting aid to Afghan rebels

Soviets keen on early pullout

MOSCOW, Jan 16. (Agencies): Mikhail Gorbachev has reiterated that the Soviet Union wants the "earliest possible" settlement in Afghanistan but said the United States has not given an "adequate response," about stopping aid to Afghan rebels.

Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze said on Jan 6 that he hopes Soviet troops will leave Afghanistan in 1988, and Pravda has said a troop pullout could start as early as May 1 if there is a settlement.

Gorbachev told US industrialist Armand Hammer Friday that the Soviet delegation had made serious and constructive proposals about Afghanistan at the Washington summit of Dec 7-10, the Tass news agency said.

"We haven't yet received an adequate response from the US administration, and that's a pity since such a settlement could set an example of a new approach to solving regional problems."

Geneva talks

"We haven't yet received an adequate response from the US administration, and that's a pity since such a settlement could set an example of a new approach to solving regional problems."

Gorbachev said. "Our position on this score remains clear-cut," Gorbachev said. "We are for the earliest possible resolution. Of course the issues of the troop withdrawal should be linked with an end to outside interference in Afghan affairs."

The Soviets insist that a settlement of the Afghan problem can be worked out in February at the UN-sponsored talks on Afghanistan in Geneva between Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Meeting

They say that 60 days after such a settlement is signed, the withdrawal of the first of some 115,000 troops from Afghanistan can start. The Soviets invaded in December 1979 to prop up a pro-Soviet government.

The Kremlin insists that an Afghan settlement requires a US guarantee to stop aiding the Mujahedeen, who are battling

the Soviet troops and their Afghan Army allies.

The head of the Pakistani religious party which supports Afghan rebels said he had held two meetings with the Soviet Ambassador to discuss ways to end the nine-year-old conflict in Afghanistan.

Kazi Hussain Ahmad, chief of the Jamaat-e-Islami party, told reporters last night he had met ambassador Abdurrahman Yezhov twice over the past two months.

"We have suggested to the Soviet ambassador that the Soviet Union should talk directly with the Mujahedeen," he said. He gave no further details.

Afghan President Najibullah said in an interview with the Washington Post newspaper this week that his Soviet-backed government was in indirect contact with the rebels.

He declined to elaborate when pressed for details, saying: "This matter is secret and should

remain secret," according to the official Afghan media.

The main anti-communist rebel groups are based in Pakistan and receive Western arms and other support.

Western diplomats monitoring efforts for an Afghan peace settlement say a significant obstacle has been a lack of direct channels of communication between the various factions.

Executions

Meanwhile, a Soviet news agency claimed that Afghan rebels have executed many of their compatriots who refused to fight with them in the battle for the main road to the eastern town of Khost. The Novosti report said the executions took place in front of hundreds of Afghan refugees in Peshawar, Pakistan, where Afghan rebel groups have their headquarters.

Novosti said the executions were carried out after Afghan and Soviet troops took the road to Khost last month.

Aquino appeals for peaceful polls

Four more die in Philippines

MANILA, Jan 16. (Reuters): President Corazon Aquino appealed for calm today as the Philippines headed into the final stretch of an election campaign that has taken 86 lives.

But violence continued as a landslide in the south ripped a jeep in half and killed four people, including two candidates and a candidate's wife.

"Let's have clean, peaceful and orderly elections," Aquino told a crowd of 10,000 at a campaign rally in Manila, as military sharpshooters peered down from rooftops.

The military has deployed thousands of troops to prevent further bloodshed before Monday's election for more than 16,000 local government positions around the country.

Troops went on high alert in the capital after intelligence agents received unconfirmed reports that right and left-wing extremists might disrupt voting, an Army officer told reporters.

The armed forces have blamed much of the pre-poll violence on the communist New People's Army (NPA), which has been battling the government for 19 years.

They said NPA rebels were responsible for the landslide blast on Friday in Lanao Del Norte province which killed mayoral candidate Diosdado Estocada, his wife, running mate and driver. Three other candidates were reported injured.

The military said rebels swooped down on the vehicle after the blast, firing shots, and then fled.

The long tradition of violence in Philippine local elections goes back beyond the insurgency, with political warlords and powerful families with private armies battling for territory and influence across the country's 73 provinces.

Manila, with some of the country's most hotly contested seats, has had its share of bloodshed.

Last Thursday, gunmen killed a woman bystander and shot an Aquino-backed candidate in the stomach at a rally there.

Aquino's 16-year-old daughter, Kris, was supposed to have appeared at the rally but did not show up because she was ill, a government spokesman said later.

Illegitimate births rising in Britain

LONDON, Jan 16. (UPI): Britain's illegitimate birth rate more than doubled over the past 10 years, making it one of the highest in Europe, a government report said.

But the annual report issued by Britain's Central Statistical Office said that, unlike past decades, most of the illegitimate births occurred "within stable unions."

Editors Jenny Church and Tom Griffin said three-quarters of the illegitimate births were from "stable unions" because both parents signed the registration form and were living at the same address.

Births outside marriage rose sharply from 61,000 in 1976 to 158,000 in 1986, or from 9 per cent to 21 per cent of all births, according to the 18th annual report entitled "Social Trends 18."

"The rise in the rate (of illegitimate births) during the 1980s has been very steep indeed, but a very high proportion of these births" occurred in stable relationships, Church said.

Former police chief held for torture cover-up

Students clash with Seoul police

SEOUL, Jan 16. (UPI): Officials arrested the former chief of South Korea's national police today on charges he ordered a cover-up in the torture-death of a student, officials said.

Students clashed violently with not police outside Yonsei University in western Seoul after a memorial for the slain student, Park Chong-Chul, 21, who was suffocated to death by police Jan 14, 1987.

Charge

About 500 students hurled dozens of Molotov cocktails and hundreds of rocks at police who moved in a mobile, rapid-fire tear-gas launcher that filled the air with exploding canister and stinging gas.

The violent students broke off from a memorial rally where 2,000 people, including dissident leader Kim Dae Jung, mourned



● A Lebanese carries a rooster as he rides his bicycle through the streets of East Beirut. He pledged to carry on this strange one-day act to express gratitude for staying alive after a shell exploded near him last year. (Reuters wirephoto)

Two universities reopen in Dhaka

DHAKA, Jan 16. (UPI): The government today reopened two major universities closed Nov 27 amid violent opposition protests aimed at ousting President Hosain Mohammad Ershad, but students held demonstrations to reaffirm their opposition to his rule.

Hundreds of police prohibited traffic and pedestrians from entering the neighbouring campuses of Dhaka University and the Engineering University as processions of about 1,000 students each wound through the grounds of each school.

The marchers shouted anti-government slogans and later gathered for rallies, at which student leaders urged continued support for a two-month-old campaign by a 21-party opposition coalition to force Ershad to resign and hand power to neutral caretaker government.

Police declined to enforce a state-of-emergency ban on public meetings as the students confined their protests to the campuses. No incidents were reported.

The two main opposition

groups, the Bangladesh Nationalist Party of Begum Khaleda Zia and the Awami League of Sheikh Hasina, receive substantial support from university students, particularly those at Dhaka University, a traditional hotbed of anti-government agitation.

The rally at Dhaka University, the nation's largest with 16,000 students, was also addressed by Vice Chancellor Abdul Mannan, who appealed to the demonstrators to maintain peace on the campus.

The government announced last week it would reopen Dhaka University and the Engineering University today after receiving assurances from their faculties that there would be no disruptions of classes.

Only about 1,600 Dhaka University students, however, returned today, while half of the other school's 3,000 students turned up. Classes were to resume Sunday.

The nation's six major universities were closed under the state-of-emergency declared by Ershad Nov 27 in a bid to defuse violent opposition protests.

Lebanon complains on Israeli attacks

UNITED NATIONS, Jan 16. (UPI): Lebanon yesterday accused Israel in the UN Security Council of a policy of continuing territorial encroachment in the south of the country and virtually daily attacks killing Lebanese civilians.

The Council's non-aligned members introduced a draft resolution which "strongly deplores the repeated Israeli attacks against the Lebanese territory and the oppressive practices against the civilian population."

Diplomatic sources said Arab countries were determined to put that resolution to a vote even at the risk of a US veto which they thought was likely.

The debate which opened yesterday was adjourned until Monday and the vote is expected then or later next week.

Lebanese Ambassador Rachid Fakhoury, whose government requested the urgent meeting of the 15-nation body to deal with the "abusive practices of Israeli occupying forces in Lebanon," listed about a dozen Israeli attacks over the past month.

Fakhoury said in one attack near Sidon a Lebanese family of seven was killed, in another two Lebanese families totalling 12 people died, in a third two Lebanese Red Cross vehicles were destroyed.

UN envoy condemns harsh...

(Continued from Page 1)

Most other refugee camps in the occupied territories remained under military curfew today and only minor incidents of stone-throwing and tyre burning were reported with no casualties.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Ehad Gol defended the police tactics at Temple Mount and said the government would discuss the incident at its weekly meeting tomorrow.

Treated

Seventy Palestinians were being treated for the effects of gas and one Israeli was seriously injured by a stone in the clash, which captured headlines around the world.

In Israel, however, it was regarded as ordinary and part of a wider attempt to quell Palestinian protest.

By yesterday evening, Israeli radio was making much of the fact that the Temple Mount clash was making headlines in other countries.

Israeli security forces have increased their strength at the mosque every Friday and have fired tear gas on several occasions to disperse crowds.

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev has written to PLO leader Yasser Arafat condemning Israeli actions in the occupied territories and expressing support for Palestinians there, the Soviet News Agency Tass said today.

Gorbachev's letter was in reply to Arafat, who had written to the Soviet leader about the "continued oppression of Israelis against the Palestinians," Tass said.

Khaddafi cancels Tunis visit

TUNIS, Jan 16. (AP): Libyan leader Moammar Khaddafi has cancelled an official visit he was to have made to Tunisia this weekend, Tunisian officials reported yesterday without explanation.

The Tunisian authorities announced on Wednesday that Khaddafi was expected for talks with President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali less than three weeks after the two North African Arab neighbours restored their diplomatic relations.

The announcement said the two leaders would discuss "the prospects of Tunisian-Libyan cooperation and the general situation in Arab North Africa."

Mubarak back home...

(Continued from Page 1)

unrest in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Mubarak discussed the protests with Arafat during their meeting in Baghdad, a PLO spokesman said.

"(They) reiterated the significance of Egypt ... stemming from its political and moral responsibility towards the Palestinian people," the spokesman said.

In unusually sharp comments, King Hussein has criticised the United States for failing to use its influence to nudge Israel towards a settlement.

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TRIVANDRUM
Once a week

Oh Calcutta producer commits suicide

NEW YORK, Jan 16. (AP): The producer responsible for making a revival of "Oh Calcutta" with its sassy script and naked performers, into one of Broadway's longest-running plays died after stabbing his wife to death, then leaping from the roof of a 15-story building, police say.

"I'm in shock," said Doris Buberl, general manager of the show, after learning that Norman Kean, 53, apparently committed suicide Friday afternoon.

Detective Joseph McConville said he apparently jumped from the roof of his building after stabbing his wife, 53-year-old Gwyda, and leaving a suicide note.

Ms Buberl said she made sure the cast did not learn of the deaths until after Friday's performance.

A relative found the body of Mrs Kean, with a single stab wound to the back, in the bedroom of their residence about four hours after Kean's body was found, McConville said.

In 1969, Kean was general manager of the then-scandalous Oh Calcutta which is composed of a series of ribald sketches written by several people, including John Lennon, Sam Shepard, Jules Feiffer and film director Robert Benton.

Working on adopting family doctor system

KUWAIT'S Health Ministry was seriously working on adopting the family doctor method, the acting undersecretary, Ibrahim Al Mudar, said yesterday.

He said that most studies on medical care showed that this method was the best for providing primary health services.

He explained that the family doctor specialised in providing comprehensive medical care to all family members irrespective of their age or sex. The main advantage was that the family doctor was always in close touch with his patients and knew their ailments and how to treat them.

Contracts signed

KUWAIT'S Minister of Public Works Abdul Rahman Al Houti yesterday signed three contracts with local companies to develop the pavements and pedestrian passages in the country's first three areas.

Each contract costs one million and KD250,000 and will be finished in 730 days, and provides for constructing and maintaining new pavements on the main roads and around the public facilities.

Addressing owners of the companies and reporters, the minister said the project has moral value as it concerns the public, and has direct relation with landscaping of Kuwait to which HH the Amir pays special attention.

The minister urged the citizens to cooperate in this regard with the contractors, and not to plant trees with deep roots which hinder achievement of the work.

Drainage water treatment

THE director of the general networks department at the Public Works Ministry, Adel Bu Hamad, has said that the treatment of drainage water was carried out according to international hygiene requirements in order to achieve the best results.

He said that the ministry had selected the best methods to suit Kuwait's soil and water.

Half the treated water was utilised and the rest disposed in the sea.

He said it would require millions of dinars to provide piped treated water to the farms in Abdali and Wafra because the farms were very far from the water treatment stations. The alternative was to provide ground water.

He said treated water could not be supplied to public or private gardens for sanitary reasons.

He said that treated water could be used if the agricultural area was fenced, far from the public and used the latest irrigation equipment.

Meeting blames Arab disunity

Palestinian issue relegated

ARAB physicians and pharmacists in Kuwait participated in a meeting recently organised by the Kuwait Medical Society, to express solidarity with Palestinians in the occupied Arab territories.

After the welcome address, given by the society's chairman Dr Abdullah Al Rasheed, the chairman of the Palestinian Physicians Union Dr Mahmoud Abu Hashish spoke about the unrest in the occupied territories, which he said, was the result of Arab disunity and the international political situation. He added that the Palestinian cause was becoming a secondary issue because of the Iraq-Iran war and Arab disunity.

Prevented

The secretary of the Palestinian Red Crescent Society Dr Basam Al Qasrawi said that Israeli forces used dangerous and illegal weapons to halt the unrest among the unarmed Palestinians adding that Israelis also broke into hospitals and prevented medical staff from treating injured Palestinians.

The revolution of the Palestinian people in the West Bank and Gaza Strip is terrifying the Israelis, Saleem Al Zaanoun, the Deputy Chairman of the Palestinian National Council, said in his remarks to the group. He called on Palestinians to restore their legitimate rights and called on the Kuwait Red Crescent Society and medical societies to take part in a voyage from a European port to Palestine to carry Palestinians expelled from their country. He added that the ship would carry the United Nations flag and the voyage would be an expression of protest against the Israeli actions.

The chairman of the society Barges Al Barges added that the society had readily given medical aid and provisions for Palesti-



A number of speakers participated in a recent meeting of physicians and pharmacists to express solidarity with Palestinians in the occupied territories.



Arab medical professionals meet to show their support of Palestinians in the recent uprising.

against the Israeli actions.

The chairman of the society Barges Al Barges added that the society had readily given medical aid and provisions for Palesti-

ians in refugee camps and asked that an organised plan for Arab medical and Red Crescent societies to support the revolution.

Decentralisation of Education Ministry praised

THE Undersecretary of Kuwait's Education Ministry Abdul Rahman Al Khudari praised the distribution of government offices over the country's four governorates, saying that the decentralisation of the Education Ministry to the four educational areas served the educational process ideally.

Al Khudari described the proposed representation of offices throughout the country as an excellent step which would ensure quick service to the public and reduce crowding inside ministry offices.

Reduce

Farid Al Ojail, the Assistant Director General of the National Housing Authority, also expressed support for the decentralisation of government services, adding that the NHA was preparing to construct a number of offices in the various governorates.

The Director General of Kuwait Municipality Rashid Al Othman also gave his support to the idea, saying that such decentralisation would reduce crowd-

ing at public offices.

The head of the Cooperative Guidance Department at the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour Fadel Al Mutawa said that the outcome of this process would be the reduction in traffic congestion and unnecessary crowding at ministry headquarters.

A number of citizens have also expressed their support of the decentralisation, saying that it would help eliminate some of the government paperwork and ease pressure at city offices.

Hussein sends message to Fahd

RIYADH, Jan 16, (Kuna): King Fahd of Saudi Arabia received a message today from Jordanian monarch King Hussein Bin Talal.

Saudi Press Agency said the message was conveyed by the head of Jordanian Royal Diwan Marwan Al Qasim who arrived here earlier today. Contents of the message were not revealed.

Murder trial postponed

BAHRAIN, Jan 16, (Reuters): The trial of a Briton and his Irish-born wife charged with the murder of a nurse in Saudi Arabia has been postponed until early February, diplomats in the kingdom said today.

Englishman Peter Hall and his wife Monica are accused of killing Irish nurse Helen Feeney, a matron at Taif maternity hospital who was found dead in her flat in April 1986. Their trial was originally set for January 2, then postponed until January 14.

The couple could face the death penalty if convicted under Saudi Arabia's Islamic law.

Kuwait's donation

TUNIS, Jan 16, (Kuna): Kuwait's Aqaf Ministry and the International Islamic Charitable Organisation has donated the sum of 151 thousand French francs (about \$25,000) for the National Society for Preserving the Holy Quran.

The financial donation will assist the society, which teaches Quran to boost its activities in that field.

Information officials meet in Riyadh

RIYADH, Jan 16, (Kuna): The fourth meeting for the information undersecretaries in the six member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council begins here today to discuss a host of topics relating to information cooperation.

During the three-day meeting the GCC officials are scheduled to discuss a detailed report on information cooperation march by the member states and a number of papers prepared by the GCC secretariat on bolstering television and radio cooperation and the exchange of news and programmes.

The first meeting for the GCC information undersecretaries was held in Abu Dhabi September 1982.

In Abu Dhabi today, it was announced that UAE Information and Culture Ministry undersecretary Abdullah Al Nowayes has left this morning for Riyadh heading a delegation to take part in the meeting of the information undersecretaries.

UK minister in Saudi Arabia

RIYADH, Jan 16, (Kuna): Assistant Defence and Aviation Minister for Military Affairs Othman Al Humaid received here today the visiting British Minister of State for Defence Lord Trefgarne and his accompanying delegation.

The meeting was attended by British Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Steven Egerton.

Trefgarne called this afternoon on Major General Talal Salem Al Mafdi, Commander of the Saudi Royal Naval Forces.

The meeting was attended by Brigadier Prince Fahd Bin Abdullah, the Vice Commander of the naval forces and the British ambassador.

New KAC official honoured

ROME, Jan 16, (Kuna): Kuwait's Ambassador to Italy Ahmad Gharith Abdulla hosted a banquet in honour of the new director of Kuwait Airways office in Italy, Sabah Shammas.

Directors of Arab airways companies, Alitalia's director of international relations and members of Arab Gulf embassies here attended the dinner.

Shammas switched positions with former director of the Kuwaiti corporation office here Badr Al Ameri who was transferred to Abu Dhabi.

Senator Specter

ABU DHABI, Jan 16, (Kuna): US Senator John Specter arrived here today from Manama, Bahrain, on a two-day visit to the United Arab Emirates.

Specter will have talks with a number of senior UAE officials over the Gulf developments and other issues of common interest.



Dr Alif Fouda explains the complicated cardiac condition in the Siamese twins following the examinations yesterday.



The twins are kept alive artificially.

Deformed hearts dash all hopes of survival

(Continued from Page 1)

but all of these blood vessels are linked to a truncated chamber, which in itself is a severe deformity. The two girls share one liver, a problem which could have been solved had they had healthy hearts.

Test

The twins were delivered on Tuesday through a Caesarean operation at the Addan hospital. Doctors, who knew that the Egyptian mother was expecting twins, were caught by surprise when they discovered during delivery that they were Siamese twins.

The mother had undergone an ultrasound test but doctors have failed to detect the case of Siamese twins.

It requires a very astute expert, and the one who would be half-expecting it, to detect a case of Siamese twins from an ultrasound test, said a doctor at Ibn Sina hospital. Forty per cent of all Siamese were born joined at the chest.

The mother is still recuperating at the Addan Hospital. Doctors say she is making good progress and is expected to leave hospital in about four days.

Efforts to provide best services to campers

SEVERAL meetings to discuss ways of rendering the best service to campers were held recently under the chairmanship of the Health Minister, Dr Abdul Rahman Al Awadi, who is chairman of the Environment Protection Committee.

The meetings were attended by members of the environment protection committee and representatives of authorities participating in the camping services.

Dr Al Awadi praised the efforts to protect the environment, particularly the desert, and said that Kuwait was a pioneer in this field.

Shoulder

The camping service committee selected Doha, Mishref and Mina Abdulla as camping areas. A member of the committee called on citizens to shoulder their responsibilities and ensure the success of the camping service campaign, adding that citizens should do this by following the instructions and recommendations which the participating authorities would announce through the media.

The leader of the scouts camp said the services this year would be excellent compared to those in the past.

Patrols

Many citizens praised the efforts of the authorities to provide services to campers, specially the Interior Ministry for supplying patrols for security purposes.

A member of the camping service committee, Jassem Al Shatti, said there were no significant problems this year, with only some infringements in Mina Abdulla area. He said that scouts were helping citizens by distributing garbage bags.

Temporary phones for Qurain housing project

SALMAN Al Roumi, the chief engineer of Kuwait's Communications Ministry, announced that the ministry is studying the possibility of providing citizens in the Qurain housing project with temporary telephone service with connections through nearby central exchanges.

The National Housing Authority has not completed the construction of the central exchange in the Qurain area, he said, so nearby exchanges will be used instead. Al Roumi added that construction of the housing project will be completed in December, 1989 and telephone services will be available in 1990.

Speaking about the ministry's personnel, Al Roumi said that most of the engineers are Kuwaitis, totalling about 100. There are also a large number of Kuwaiti graduates from higher technical institutes working as technicians at various central exchanges, he said, adding that the ministry's plan is to replace non-Kuwaiti technicians with Kuwaitis.

The ministry has completed a number of projects expanding the telephone exchanges in various areas throughout the country, he said, and has signed a contract to build two telecom communications control stations in Ras Salmiya and South Sababiya.

Life for murder

KUWAIT'S Criminal Court sentenced an agricultural worker to life imprisonment to be followed by deportation on a charge of premeditated murder.

The court was told the defendant had killed his supervisor for informing the farm owner that he was unfit for the work. The owner decided to repatriate the worker who then resolved to kill the supervisor who was responsible for this.

While the supervisor was having dinner with the other workers, the defendant rushed at the supervisor and stabbed him with a knife in the head and chest. He prevented the other workers from taking the supervisor to hospital and hit one of them on the shoulder with a piece of iron.

But the workers overcame him and rushed the supervisor to the hospital where he was pronounced dead.

Jaafar meets Saudi minister

RIYADH, Jan 16, (Kuna): Kuwait Information Ministry Undersecretary Abdel Aziz Jaafar met here today with Saudi Information Minister Ali Al-Sha'er.

Saudi Press Agency said Jaafar relayed a message from Kuwaiti Information Minister Sheikh Nasser Mohammed Al-Ahmed to his Saudi counterpart.

Al Sha'er hoped informal cooperation between the two countries would boost bilateral rapprochement in favour of Arab and Islamic issues.

Jaafar arrived here last night to participate in the 4th session of GCC information undersecretaries.

One-day salary cut

THE Ministry of Electricity and Water will deduct an equivalent of one-day pay of its employees' salaries in contribution to the Palestinian people's uprising in the occupied land.

The decision was taken in conformity with an earlier cabinet directive calling all government and private institutions' employees to donate a one-day salary in support of the steadfastness of the Palestinian people.

Alawi sends message to Turkey

ANKARA, Jan 16, (Kuna): The Turkish Foreign Minister Mesut Yilmaz today received a message from Oman's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yusuf Bin Alawi Bin Abdullah, dealing with means of stepping up bilateral relations in the various fields. Oman News Agency reported.

The message was delivered to the Turkish minister by Oman's Ambassador to Turkey Abdullah Bin Said Al Baluchi at a meeting in Ankara today.

250 jailed for annoying women

RIYADH, Jan 16, (Reuters): Some 250 men were jailed in Saudi Arabia's capital Riyadh last year for annoying women in public places, a senior police officer told Al-Riyadh newspaper.

He did not say if any foreigners were among those jailed in the city, which has an estimated 1.5 million population.

Under strict Islamic (sharia) law in Saudi Arabia, women are required to cover themselves from head to toe in public.

46,142,000

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GRAND PRIZE - A fabulous Apple IIc personal computer with 10 diskette programs of fun games and challenges.

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Tender Documents can be purchased from the office of the Superintendent Administration Services, KNPC Head Office as from 17/1/1988.

WANTED

First class diesel and gasoline mechanics

With minimum five years of working experience in Kuwait after obtaining diploma, transferable visa and driving license.

Salary includes accommodation and food at company's residences in Wafra, Abdaly and Bayan.

Interested parties apply in writing to P.O. Box 1976, Safat 13020, Kuwait.

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required with experience in typing, telex, office routine works and transferable working visa.

Apply to P.O. Box 3562, Safat, 13036, Safat, Kuwait.

Going Places

Support theatre, urges Al Faraj

By Lima Khalafawi

A LEADING Kuwaiti actor has urged the government to support the theatre movement with "more money and space for buildings." Kuwaiti comedian Saad Al Faraj said the theatre needs government support to thrive and improve. They lack the technical facilities to improve it, he said.

Al Faraj's new comedy Hatha Seifo wa Hatha Khalafawi is to be staged in March this year. The play shows the changes and developments of the last 40 years in Kuwait's society.

"Kuwait has not changed. The old habits and traditions are still intact," said Al Faraj. War and conflict has encouraged the production of comedies, he said. "Spectators seek an opportunity to laugh to get out of the stress of daily routine," he explained. After

the Gulf war began, he said, more and more light-hearted plays have been produced.

"The war has inspired many writers with ideas to offset the grim atmosphere in the Arab world," he said.

The history of theatre in Kuwait is recent. Theatre began only 30 years ago. "The movement has grown tremendously in this short span," he said.

Faraj believes that the success of a play depends largely on the talent of performers. "Actors and actresses work really hard to prove their talent. And they have been appreciated by the audience," he said.

He feels the continuity of the theatre movement depends on the graduates from the Institute of Theatrical Arts. "The new actors and actresses are the hope of the future," said Al Faraj, whose career began way

back in 1957.

Al Faraj started his career with the Popular Theatre and in 1974, he joined the Al Arabi theatre and worked there until he formed his own group, the National Theatre Company.

Faraj has scripted several plays and has acted in over 20 dramas and 50 serials. Live to See, a play by Al Faraj, was the most successful. It was translated into English and staged in Louisville, Kentucky, US. Among his other well-known plays is The Defender, which ran for two months in a Kuwait theatre. The Defender was a political satire on democracy and netted a profit of KD 88,000.

"The Defender shows how everyone must uphold and defend democracy, even if it involves sacrifice," he said. At the moment, Al Faraj is rehearsing for his next play, which opens in March.



Saad Al Faraj: defender

Carnatic music at cultural show

CARNATIC music flowed as the Tamil-speaking community in Kuwait on Friday celebrated Pongal, the harvest festival, ranked as the most important festival in Tamil Nadu. It was a dual celebration for the Tamil-speakers as they also participated in the prolonged festivities, begun last August, for the 40th independence of India.

It was organised by the Bharathi Kalai Mandram, grouping 120 Tamil-speaking families, including some bachelors.

An ambitious show, it brought 125 people on stage. It was a day for children — some 86 presented from the folk to the modern. Their performance was marred slightly by the faculty sound system, which played havoc, and some off-key music. A group of children, sang two patriotic songs, Hathi India and Land of the Palm Groves, penned by an Indian scientist and poet, Dr. T. C. Gopal, now living in Kuwait.

The theme of the show was unity in diversity, and as such the Tamil-speakers emphasised



A view of the audience.

on the works of the Tamil poet Subrahmanya Bharati. He spoke about unity and patriotism long before India gained independence.

Several items showed India's diverse culture including Punjabi. Highlights of the programme were kummi, a group dance traditionally performed by unmarried girls on Pongal; a temple dance, tribal dance from eastern India, Bharatha Natyam and instrumental music. The show was organised by a committee formed by the Bharathi Kalai Mandram (BKM), and convened under Dr T.C. Doraiswamy.

The BKM was formed only two years ago and has some 120 members. At the moment they have no plans for expansion. "We are restricted by space," said its president C.V.K. Raman, a theatre-buff who takes an active part in the Kuwait Dramatic Society, run under the auspices of KOC.

The BKM is a non-political group, concentrating on promotion of their culture among the Tamil-speaking community. And as such it runs three Tamil-language classes for children in Fahaheel, Salmiya and Abbasiya. They also hold cultural shows for the community.



Indian Ambassador N.M. Jha (second right) pictured with guests at the show.



A Bharata Natyam number



● A well-known German pianist, Wolfram Lorenzen (above), will give a recital at the Kuwait Hilton on Jan 19. Lorenzen, billed as one of the rising stars, will play a selection of music by such composers as Chopin, Schumann, Liszt and Ravel. Lorenzen studied music under Professor Klaus Linde in Basle and later mastered the art with Wilhelm Kempfer.

WHAT'S ON

THEATRE

KLT-Comedy
The next production at KLT is a comedy Say Who You Are, directed by Steve Prescott. The gala performance is at 7 pm on Feb 1. Repeat performances are at 7.30 pm on Feb 2, 3, and 4. Tickets — KD3. For reservations call 3947651. Tickets must be collected from the Box Office two days before the performance date.

FILMS

British Council
Soft Targets, a feature film made with all the style and mastery of spy thrillers, will be shown tonight at 6.30 pm at the British Council. The film offers many pertinent and highly amusing insights to the East-West relationship. 90 minutes duration. Admission free but reservations must be made. Tel: 2515512.

SOCIAL

Sargam Music Show
Sargam, a local group, will hold a music show at Messilah Beach Hotel at 6.30 pm on Feb 3. A selection of popular Urdu, Hindi, Punjabi and English songs will be presented. Entertainment also includes fire dance, lava dance and a magic show. For details phone 3260455. 7 am to 3 pm.

Japan Week

Jan 21: Kite flying competition, from 9 am to 1 pm, at the Science Club.

The following events will be held at the Hilton Hotel. Jan 22: children's exhibition, also featuring award winning art works by Kuwaiti children, on loan from the 1987 International Art Exhibition held in Yokohama. Open from 4 to 9 pm on Jan 22. From Jan 23 to 25, open from 9 am to 1 pm and 4 to 9 pm. Jan 23: seminar on Japanese education; 9 am to 1 pm; Ikebana School — 11 am to 1 pm; piano concert by Cairo-based pianist Junko Nakayama. Jan 24: Ikebana School, 11 am to 1 pm; martial arts and tea ceremony.

Seven films will be shown during the Week in the Hilton's Terrace room. All films are in Japanese with Arabic subtitles. Jan 22, 4 pm, Snow Fairy; 7 pm, the Makioka sisters. Jan 23, 4 pm, The Dragon Boy; 7 pm, Sanjuri, directed by Kurosawa. Jan 24, 4 pm, The Yashima Story (judo story); 7 pm, The Longest Tunnel. Jan 25: Tora San's Forbidden Love, a comedy, 7 pm.

A seminar on Japanese business will be held on Feb 3 at the Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and Building from 8.30 am to 5.30 pm.

A token admission fee will be charged for some events. For further details, and confirmation of schedule, contact Tel: 2518155/2518440 or the Japanese Society 2533000 ext 1156.

Kuwait Nomads

Rugby Club
Quiz night on Wednesday, Jan 20. For details phone Jon Evans — 5339867 or Tony Sole — 5330507.

Winter Serenade

The Kuwait Players Winter Serenade will be an evening to remember — haute cuisine, music, sparkling and show stoppers, nostalgic ballads, moody blues and celebrated classics performed by Ross, Jenny, Lynley, Reem, Rosie and Carol. Directed by Peter Godfrey, Ros Langhorne and Glenis Muckle. It will be held in the Grand Ballroom, Meridien Hotel, on Feb 1, 2, and 3. Feb 4 Gala Dinner and show at 7.30 pm. For details ring 2656265; 5334695 or 5730641.

Ladies Tea Party

A saree fashion show will be held at the International Ladies Tea Party on Jan 30 (Wednesday) from 4.30 pm at the Kuwait Plaza Hotel. For details phone 5317390, 5386297.

Kuwait Caledonians

Kuwait Caledonians will hold Burns Night at 7.30 pm on Jan 28 at Messilah Beach Hotel. Guest speaker will be Bob Crempsey. For details phone 5610673.

Neelam Ghar

Neelam Ghar, a quiz show, will be held on Jan 22 at Carlton Tower Hotel. Admission by invitation only. For details phone Zulfiqar or Anees — 4814733; 2427388; 2445324 or Haroon Suedy — 5659336.

Konkani Drama

The New G.O.A. presents Freddy J. D'Costa's play Utti Goymkara on Jan 17 (3 pm). The troupe from Goa, including Jacinto Vaz, will perform at the New Indian Arts Circle hall in Finaitees. Transport available from city. For reservations contact the Raja Stores.

Piano Concert

German pianist Wolfram Lorenzen will give a recital on Jan 19 (8 pm) in the Grand Ballroom of the Kuwait Hilton. He will play works by Ravel, Schumann, Liszt and Chopin. For further details contact the hotel.

Kuwait Singers

Rehearsals for the May concert will begin on Monday, Jan 18, 7.30 pm in the Sunshine School. Salwa, and will be held every Saturday and Monday. New members welcome. Tel: 5331413.

HOTELS

At Messilah Beach
Al Mubarakiah features lunch and dinner, open 24 hours, children under 10 years free if accompanied by adults, offer limited to four. Sunday's is ladies day with 50 per cent discount for them.

At the SAS

Every Tuesday is Sahrat Al Khema — oriental night. Experience the exotic charm of the orient at the Tent. Arabian bazaar, perfumes, jewellery, clothes and rugs are some of the attractions. Dinner, live music and raffle prizes.

At the Ramada Al Salam

Daily lunch, chef's special, and dinner buffet at Coffee Shop; from Sunday to Friday, steak and seafood specialties featured for dinner at El Mersa Restaurant, open from 7 pm to 1.30 am. Family brunch on Fridays from 12 noon to 3 pm. Highlights will be: magician, painting competition, games and ship's discovery tour.

At the Hilton

Speciality menu featured in Falaika, open for lunch and dinner; grazing menu also available in addition to desserts.

At the Continental

Gardenia offers food and beverage service on the Terrace. Daily dinner buffet and on Fridays, lunch buffet with charcoal grilled specialties. Darbar features daily lunch buffet and 'a la carte' for dinner.

At the Sheraton

Dine in the Hunt Room with live music by the gypsy band Camerata. For lunch, Hunt Room offers a la carte. Trabouche on the roof is held every Sunday in Al Hamba Night Club. Music by the World Machine band. The Riccardo features a selection of Italian cuisine with music by the Moonlight Duo.

At the Meridien

A two-week promotion featuring giant croissants, and croissant sandwiches, is being held in the Al Waha and Al Fingan restaurant. The promotion continues until the end of the month.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

- 2.15 Holy Quran
- 2.30 World News via Satellite
- 3.30 Bahath An Mofli: cartoons
- 4.00 News Summary
- 4.05 Magazine D'Actualite
- 4.25 La Ilaha Illallah: daily historical serial
- 5.30 Al Manahil: series for children, featuring Amal Dabbas, Tayseer Attiya, Rabe'a Shihab..
- 6.00 Songs and Music
- 7.00 News Summary
- 7.05 Soora: Min Al Tabayya documentary
- 7.30 Diwanayat Shuara Al Nab: poetry session
- 8.15 Good Evening and Local News
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 9.50 Al Anzar: daily serial
- 10.50 Kalimah Fi Sahrah: "Television". Variety show featuring Adel Imam, Laila Nazmi, Noor Al Shariff, Nelli, Samir Ghanim, Noor Al Shariff and others.
- 11.50 News Summary
- 11.55 World News via Satellite
- 12.30 Holy Quran/Closedown

KTV 2

- 6.00 Holy Quran
- 6.10 Lone Ranger: cartoons
- 6.30 Butterfly Island: "There is a Tide." A sheep in an office block wrecks havoc.



Booth Savage, Dorothy Parke and Paule Burke in Hot Shots, 8.40 pm on KTV2, a series about ambitious reporters covering unusual crimes around the world.

- 7.00 Understanding Islam: a weekly local show on Islam.
- 7.30 The Wacky World of Sports: a light hearted look at sporting events.
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.40 Hot Shots: "Blue Birds Inn." Amanda Reed (Dorothy Parke) and Jason West (Booth Savage) investigate the death of a rich woman.
- 9.30 Foley Square: "Personals". Alex places an ad in the personal columns of a newspaper.
- 10.00 Q.E.D.: "Mark, His

Sister and the Scientists". Scientists study hereditary traits and its relationship with disease.

10.30 Best Seller: "The Long Hot Summer". A stranger comes to town and is employed by a wealthy person.

12.00 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown.

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

RADIO PROGRAMMES

English

Morning

- 08.00 Opening
- 08.02 Songs and Music
- 08.30 News
- 08.40 Songs and Music
- 08.45 Daily Programme
- 09.00 Bands with a Beat
- 09.30 Songs and Music
- 10.00 Our Press Today
- 10.05 Songs and Music
- 10.30 Pick of the Pops
- 11.00 Closedown
- 13.30 News on the FM service
- Evening
- 21.00 Opening
- 21.02 The Young Sound
- 21.30 News
- 21.45 Point of View
- 21.55 Songs and Music
- 22.00 The World of Sports
- 22.15 In the French mood
- 22.45 Daily Programme
- 23.00 Pop Session Special
- 24.00 Closedown

FM Services

- 08.00-08.30 Easy Listening
- 08.30-08.40 News
- 08.40-10.00 Easy Listening
- 10.00-11.00 Songs and Music
- 11.00-12.00 Country Western
- 12.00-13.00 Songs and Music
- 13.00-13.30 Easy Listening
- 13.30-13.40 News
- 13.40-14.00 Easy Listening
- 14.00-16.00 Classical Music
- 16.00-17.00 Easy Listening
- 17.00-18.00 French hour
- 18.00-21.30 Pops
- 21.30-21.45 News
- 21.45-22.00 Pops

Arabic songs and music

22.00-23.00 Arabic songs and music

23.00-24.00 Easy Listening

24.00-02.00 Instrumental Listening

BBC World Services

- 0000 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 Radio Newsworld
- 30 Musical Masters of the Baroque
- 0100 News Summary followed by Play of the Week 3rd Uncle Vanya Contd.: 10th Daisy Pulls It Off; 17th Chicken Soup with Barley — Part 1; 24th Chicken Soup with Barley — Part 2; 31st The Enemy Within
- 0200 World News
- 09 The Sunday Papers
- 15 I've Been Together Now For 70 Years
- 30 Album Time
- 0300 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 From Our Own Correspondent
- 30 Back to Square One
- 0400 Newsweek
- 30 A Mozart Miscellany
- 45 Reflections
- 50 Financial Review
- 0500 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 Stuart Coleman's Record Hop
- 45 Letter from America
- 0600 Newsweek
- 30 Jazz for the Asking
- 0700 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 From Our Own Correspondent

50 Waveguide

- 0900 World News
- 09 Reflections
- 15 The Pleasure's Yours
- 0900 World News
- 09 The Sunday Papers
- 15 Science in Action
- 45 Australia Bound (ex 31st Hobbits)
- 1000 News Summary followed by Short Story
- 15 Classical Record Review
- 30 Religious Service
- 1100 World News
- 09 News About Britain
- 15 From Our Own Correspondent
- 30 Musical Masters of the Baroque (ex 3rd Play of the Week: Uncle Vanya)
- 1200 News Summary (ex 3rd) followed by Play of the Week: 3rd Uncle Vanya contd.: 10th Daisy Pulls It Off; 17th Chicken Soup with Barley — Part 1; 24th Chicken Soup with Barley — Part 2; 31st The Enemy Within
- 1300 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 Sports Roundup
- 45 The Sandi Jones Request Show including at 1400 News Summary
- 1430 Back to Square One
- 1500 World News
- 15 Concert Hall
- 1600 World News
- 09 Commentary
- 15 3rd Fundamentals America: 10th Housing the World; 17th Byron: 24th Rescuing the Rhine; 31st Not In Our Stars
- 45 Letter from America
- 1700 World News
- 09 Reflections
- 15 Jazz for the Asking
- 45 Sports Roundup

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus
Al Nimr Wal Unsa (Arabic)
Starring: Adel Imam, Athar Al Hakim
Al Salmiya
The Living Daylight
Starring: Timothy Dalton
Al Hamba
Big Trouble in Little China
Starring: Kurt Russell, Kim Drive-In
Al Nimr Wal Unsa (Arabic)
Starring: Adel Imam, Athar Al Hakim
Al Firdous
Mamta (Hindi)

Starring: Dharmendra, Suchitra Sen
Fahadhel Open-Air
Sharabi (Hindi)
Starring: Amitabh Bachchan, Jaya Prada

Al Fahadhel
Sreedharante Onnam Thiru Muruvu (Malayalam)

Al Jahra
Gora (Hindi)
Starring: Rajesh Khanna

Granada
Ghazab (Hindi)

Sulabikhat
The Little Shop of Horrors
Al Jleeb
Ajanta (Malayalam)
Ahmadi Drive-In
They Called Him Trinity

PRAYERS

Fajr	5.20 am
Zuhr	11.58
Asr	2.54 pm
Maghreb	5.14
Isha	6.35

NIGHT CHEMIST

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KPTC Bldg. Hilali St.
Al Amal Pharmacy
Mubarak Al Kabir St.
Hawalli and Nagra
Al Sabah Pharmacy
Ouhman St.
Salmiya and Ramsithiya
Al Rashed Pharmacy
Amman St.

Fahadhel and Ahmadi
Al Sheba Pharmacy
Late Sheikh Ahmad Al Jaber Bldg., F'heel

Farwaniya
Al Munawar Pharmacy
Main St.

Jahra
Al Zahra Pharmacy
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EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

YOU cannot climb the ladder of success with cold feet of fear — Anonymous.

Bonn-Moscow ties enjoying a thaw

By Bjorn Edlund

BONN, (Reuters): Most West Germans no longer see the Soviet Union as having aggressive designs, a view that appears reflected in improved relations between Bonn and Moscow.

The new mood is underscored by a visit next week by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, the highest-ranking Moscow official to come to Bonn in five years.

Soviet diplomats said Shevardnadze would discuss a future visit by Kremlin chief Mikhail Gorbachev during his talks here on Jan 18 and 19.

Links, never easy between the World War Two enemies, turned frosty in 1986 when Chancellor Helmut Kohl compared Gorbachev's publicity skills with those of Nazi propaganda chief Joseph Goebbels.

But diplomats and government officials say the Soviet Union is keen to normalise relations, seeing Bonn as a key piece in the global political and strategic puzzle.

Helped

This desire was underlined last month when Gorbachev rolled out the red carpet for Franz Josef Strauss — premier of Bavaria and West Germany's leading right-wing politician.

Strauss, who for decades warned against Moscow's alleged striving to dominate the West, said after three hours of talks with Gorbachev that the Soviet Union had now turned over a new leaf.

"The post-war era is over. A new chapter has been opened," Strauss said, adding the Kremlin had abandoned any aggressive plans.

Most West Germans agree with Strauss.

According to Defence Ministry figures, only 24 per cent see the Soviet Union as a military threat; the lowest figure since such polls were begun 25 years ago.

Valentin Falin, former Soviet ambassador here and now head of the Novosti press agency, said Strauss' visit had brought Moscow and Bonn closer. "The basis for developing relations has been widened. Strauss forms part of this broader spectrum."

"Without wanting to pay compliments, the role (of Bonn) should not be underestimated. This is not only true for developments in Europe, but also beyond," Falin said in a newspaper interview.

Apart from preparing for a Gorbachev visit, Shevardnadze is expected to discuss coming talks on cutting the superpowers' strategic missiles, a ban on chemical weapons and balancing conventional forces.

Bonn officials said the issue of emigration of ethnic Germans from the Soviet Union would also be raised.

Chance

Kohl said he wants Gorbachev to visit in the first half of 1988, during Bonn's presidency of the European Economic Community.

But a Soviet diplomat said Gorbachev would come only after he meets President Ronald Reagan, if their Moscow summit is held as planned in May or June.

"If that meeting doesn't take place, there will be no trip (by Gorbachev) to West Germany," he said.

Foreign Minister Hans-

Dietrich Genscher, a strong advocate of détente, said the Kremlin charm drive reflected Gorbachev's hopes to concentrate resources in the flagging Soviet economy instead of defence.

"In the nuclear age, a cooperative East-West policy on security means more than just saving on arms spending. It is mankind's only real chance of survival," Genscher told West German radio.

Diplomats said the invitation of Strauss had been a Soviet masterstroke.

"It ensured a silencing of the right wing, which would have made life hell for Kohl during a rapprochement with the Soviets if Strauss had not been brought in on the act," one NATO nation diplomat said.

After the superpower pact to scrap intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF), Moscow sees Bonn as a crucial player in the game over short-range nuclear missiles.

West Germany, NATO's front-line state, is alone in the alliance in pressing for early talks on short-range armory, although Bonn has dismissed Warsaw Pact proposals to eliminate such weapons.

Change

Gorbachev was once reported as saying he would rather deal directly with Washington than hear West German leaders repeat US positions.

Diplomats said that attitude had clearly changed.

Former Social Democratic Chancellor Helmut Schmidt said West Germany can act as a bridge between Moscow and the West, as Germans have a historical feeling for Russia.

"For centuries we have had a bridging function between the Russian sphere and its partially Asian flavour and Europe, even if we haven't always been aware of it," Schmidt said in a recently published book, "Peoples and Powers."

"The Russians always had problems understanding the West, and they will have them in the future, too. And the West, always has difficulties in understanding Russia and Russian politics."

Diplomats said that although there could be no talk yet of a budding "special relationship" between Bonn and Moscow, even normalisation would probably bring back fears within NATO of German neutralism.

West Germany's post-war constitution pledges to strive for reunification with communist East Germany.

Strauss said he had not been contradicted when he told Gorbachev there were "two German states in one nation", but no one expects real movement toward uniting Germany in the foreseeable future.

East-West experts said Moscow wanted to keep the highly emotive "German card," not play it. The Kremlin sees the power bloc division of Europe as essential to stability.

"The Soviets want Washington to control West Germany, just as they control East Germany," said one leading West German expert on Soviet affairs, who asked not to be identified.

"Moscow does not want to drive the United States out of Europe. France or Britain could not control West Germany, and a unified, neutral Germany would be too big for them all."

US expects pro-Army victor in Haiti polls

WASHINGTON, (Reuters): The United States appears resigned to seeing a pro-military victor in today's election in Haiti but seems ready to deal — albeit coldly — with the new president.

"If we want to serve US interests in terms of anti-narcotics cooperation, refugee flows — and the humane interests of the Haitian people — then you have to prefigure some relationship with the new government, however distant," a senior US official said.

But this pragmatic approach has been rejected by several Haitian opposition leaders and some members of the US Congress.

They have called for stern action to force the provincial government of Lieutenant-General Henri Namphy to postpone today's heavily-orchestrated ballot and allow free and fair voting to take place.

Their proposals include a trade embargo and a multinational peacekeeping force to disarm the Army and remnants of the Tontons Macoute, the militia loyal to ousted dictator Jean-Claude Duvalier, until a democratic president takes over.

"It is clear the election will not be free, fair, democratic or supported by the Haitian people," the congressmen wrote to President Reagan.

The lawmakers, including Senator Edward Kennedy, expressed concern over Haiti's "desperate situation" and urged Reagan not to recognise any civilian government the balloting produces.

US officials agree the election is seriously flawed and have publicly urged Namphy to guard against a bloodbath similar to that which forced postponement of the original election on Nov 29.

Front page stories on growing unrest in Israeli-occupied areas is an embarrassment

US uses UN vote as political pressure

THE Reagan administration is using its vote in the United Nations Security Council to put political pressure on Israel. It wants it to be more receptive to the so-called "peace process" and to direct negotiations about the future of the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The daily front page stories about the growing unrest in the occupied territories are an embarrassment here for Israel, for the American government and for American Jewry.

The political deadlock in the Israeli government over the "peace process" has caused despair inside the administration and, increasingly, irritation among American Jews. As Alexander Schindler, a rabbi and the president of the Union of America Hebrew congregations, put it in an opinion piece in the New York Times: "Israel's friends are embarrassed and distressed by television films and news reports of Israeli troops firing at Palestinian civilians, many of them young."

"There is general agreement among middle eastern experts inside the administration and outside that the prolongation of the status quo in the occupied territories, as Schindler wrote: 'Sows the seeds of endless conflict. It corrodes the Jewish and democratic character of the state. It is a time bomb ticking away at Israel's vital centre and threatening to shatter its being'."

Comparison

Under these circumstances the Reagan administration sees an outside chance to shake the current deadlock between the Labour and Likud bloc and to create a situation more conducive to Arab-Israeli negotiations. So far, however, the Likud party remains adamantly opposed to an international conference as a forum for negotiations, while the Labour Party under Foreign Minister Shimon Peres seems ready to enter into negotiations with Jordan and non-PLO Palestinians.

For the moment, though, concerned about any weakening of the Israeli government, Israeli public opinion has closed ranks in support of use of force against the demonstrators. But if and when the unrest comes to a halt, the hope here is, that Israeli politicians, facing the prospect of a repetition of these riots, may have second thoughts and search for ways to prevent another outbreak of violence.

The allies, especially Britain,

have been telling the Reagan administration that it must exert more pressure on Israel to accept the idea of an international peace conference. But Secretary of State George Shultz has been reluctant to do so. He still considers it an almost hopeless undertaking.

Some American Middle Eastern experts are comparing the situation in the West Bank and Gaza to the uprising in Algeria that ultimately forced France to give it independence. In my view this comparison does not quite fit.

First of all, the Algerian rebel forces had arms and operated in army units and from remote bases they controlled. The teenagers who are demonstrating in the Gaza strip and the West Bank have no arms, they use stones, they, therefore, have no capacity for an organised armed uprising.

The Israeli troops have guns, tanks and handgrenades. They use live ammunition, sometimes in defence of their own lives, sometimes to frighten the Arab youth.

But what will happen if and when the young Arabs begin to use weapons?

They may decide that there is not much of a choice between risking their lives in street fighting and being unemployed, as so many of them are.

Cause

Another reason why the comparison with Algeria does not hold water is that there is no leader like General de Gaulle, who had the courage and the power to give Algeria its independence despite the threat of a revolt by the French armed forces against him.

Unemployment

No doubt, it was not only unemployment, the limited freedoms and the fact that all hopes for a peace initiative had perished out, but also the recognition that the Arab-Israeli conflict had come to be overshadowed by the rising bellicosity of the Iran-Iraq war. When the Arab moderates held their last summit meeting in Amman, Jordan last November, the West Bank and Gaza issue was relegated to the bottom of their agenda.

Whatever the origins of the continuing demonstrations, they have drawn attention to a festering

Inside Washington

By Henry Brandon

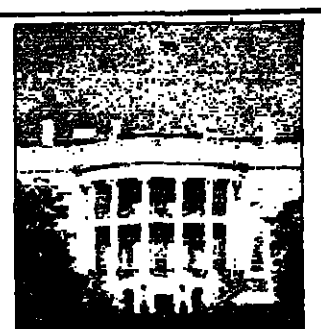


The US Deputy Ambassador to the UN, Herbert Okun votes for a Security Council resolution asking Israel not to deport Palestinians. (Reuters wirephoto)

boil nobody seems to be able to lance.

The Israeli government is at a total impasse politically and there is little hope, in view of the opinion pollsters, that the coming elections in November will bring about a change. There is an outside chance, though, that the problem of the occupied territories will become a pivotal issue in the election campaign and lead to a debate of how to meet this threat to Israel's internal peace.

There is also the problem that there is nobody in the occupied



territories with whom to negotiate. Partly, this is Israel's fault because, as the New York Times put it, it dismantled virtually all Palestinian authority.

Leading Palestinian moderates have either been dismissed from the positions that gave them some power, or they have been assassinated by Palestinian radicals. Thus, the Palestinians who stand to gain the most from a compromise peace settlement with Israel in terms of their own security and their winning a definite political identity, lack the kind of leader who is capable of creating a consensus among their flock.

Yasser Arafat, the leader of the PLO, has proved to have remarkable resilience, but with Israel opposed to him and King Hussein distrusting him, he is not seen here as an interlocutor or as one who can unite the various Palestinian factions.

King Hussein, it is believed here, is genuinely anxious to bring the conflict with Israel to an end. But he too does not have the political strength to negotiate directly and publicly with Israel. Hence, his advocacy of an international peace conference. The United States, which for a long time opposed such a conference, because it would enhance Soviet power in the Middle Eastern region, is now supporting it and so are the Soviets, even Syria does not anymore object to it. But in an election year in Israel and in the United States the chances for such a conference taking place are remote.

End

There is the more urgent and more immediate problem for Israel: How to bring an end to the unrest in the occupied territories?

Jean Kirkpatrick, the former American ambassador to the United Nations and a strong supporter of Israel, attacked the Reagan administration for inciting violent provocations in the West Bank and Gaza by supporting UN resolutions critical of Israel's handling of the demonstration. But if the United States raised a warning finger in the UN Security Council to admonish Israel not to use live ammunition and to desist from expelling Palestinians from the occupied territories, it does not mean that the Reagan administration is about to cut aid to Israel or to weaken overall support for its security.

But there is serious concern among Jewish leaders here that

Israel's inflexibility could affect American public opinion more generally and they have been imploring the Israeli government to be more active in seeking peaceful solutions to the short and long-term problems in the West Bank and Gaza.

They are trying to impress on it that unless it seeks peace more actively, Israel's security in a sea of a rapidly multiplying Arab population will become increasingly harder to maintain.

However, the Likud party does not believe that there is any urgency in taking the kind of steps that could point the way to a peace settlement with the Arabs. They are convinced that time is on their side, that the Arabs are too disunited and hence too weak to seriously threaten Israeli security.

They also believe that the kind of demonstrations that are now causing so much turbulence in the occupied territories cannot be maintained for a long time. They are also telling American that in the eyes of most Arabs the Iraq-Iran conflict has become much greater threat to their security than Israel.

Lesson

The welcome Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak is getting now among Gulf states, cited as an indication of when the real threat to the Arab world lies. Egypt, as the most powerful military force in the Middle East next to Israel, can and may have to play a protective role, but Mubarak does not have the appetite or the daring to step into the empty shoes of President Anwar Sadat as a mediator between Israel, Jordan and the Palestinians.

Yet to assume that the status quo is durable, that it could continue indefinitely and that Israel over the long run, could protect itself against outside and inside enemies, would mean shouldering an incredible economic and political burden.

It makes Americans more than uncomfortable, for there are growing limits to what the United States will be willing to do in support of Israel.

They do want to have to face the kind of crisis that would shift much of these burdens onto their own shoulders. It is for these reasons that the Reagan administration voted against Israel in the Security Council. It wanted to impress on Israel that it must not take American support for granted in all circumstances.

Charm school polishes young Asian officials

By Ruth Youngblood

SINGAPORE, (UPI): Koh Sook Wah, a financial analyst with a major American firm, exudes confidence in the business world but nearly panicked recently at a puzzling array of cutlery and goblets adorning a dining table.

Accustomed to using chopsticks or fingers, she had no idea what to do with seven pieces of silverware, three glasses and four plates at her first formal company dinner.

"That dinner was a real eye-opener," said Koh, who avoided a humiliating faux pas by watching her companions so carefully she couldn't engage in conversation. "There was a whole world of Western social graces I knew nothing about."

Join

A generation of well-educated and ambitious Asian professionals eager to join the international giants are turning in droves to agencies and counselors specializing in executive grooming.

"If you want to move up in a multinational organisation, you have to learn how the Western world and mind operates," said Catherine Chea, a Qantas airlines management trainee delighted with her newly cultivated outspokenness.

"If I don't look good and sound good, it won't matter how many degrees I have. I'll just be regarded as someone not worth paying attention to."

Unprepared

Students enter classes out of "a kind of desperation," said Walter Jayandran, an instructor at the Singapore branch of John Robert Powers, a firm best known for American modelling and charm schools. "They are very disciplined, have the right educational qualifications, the ability to do their jobs very well and tremendous drive."

"Then the unexpected happens. They're invited to a company dinner, asked to give a presentation or just take an important customer out to lunch, and they're totally

unprepared."

Six men and women at an elegantly-set dining table take careful notes as another Powers' instructor explains what fork and knife to use when, where goblets go for water, red and white wine and the functions of six different plates.

Many companies aren't waiting for promising employees to sign up themselves. Corporate heavies such as AT&T, Hewlett Packard, Deloitte, and the Banque Nationale de Paris pick up a \$500 tab for employees they deem in need of polishing.

Membership in the US-originated Toastmasters Club is soaring. At weekly meetings of the six Toastmaster Clubs already here, men and women practise impromptu speeches, marketing exhortations, selling presentations and speeches.

"Asians are fairly reticent," said Y.Y. See, 38, recently named Toastmaster of the Year. "Not to be able to speak confidently and being apprehensive about public speaking are significant handicaps."

Uneasy

See, finance manager for a large British company, recalled how he used to "hide in a cloak of shyness and stumble through explanations" until joining the Singapore version of the club which originated in California 64 years ago.

"Unfortunately, such engrained Asian personality characteristics as docility and submissiveness towards authority backfire in the modern business environment," he said. Mazlan Asmuni, the 25-year-old head of a real estate firm specialising in work for expatriates, said his initial contacts with Westerners left him so "ill at ease" he sought help from an agency. "Frankly my whole image needed upgrading," Asmuni said. "So I got the works."

Gone are the baggy pants and pale shirts with matching trousers. Instead Asmuni wears dark tailored slacks with light shirts and conservative ties for the "successful look."

Burned alive. Crime? Paid too little dowry

By Malcolm Davidson

NEW DELHI, (Reuters): Married at 16 and abused from day one, the Indian woman said she suffered beatings for 19 years before she summoned the courage to get out. She escaped minus the sight of one eye.

But for the intervention of villagers, she is convinced she would have lost her life at the hands of her husband and in-laws.

Her crime? "It was because my parents could not give enough," she said. "They said I came from a low family to give such a lousy dowry."

The giving or taking of dowry was made illegal in India in 1961 but that has done little to stop the practice.

Hundreds of Indian women are killed each year, many of them suffering horrible deaths after being doused in kerosene and burnt alive, or being driven to suicide.

In many cases the police can never be sure what really happened. In the paragraph or two such deaths rate in India's newspapers, they are usually termed "kitchen accidents."

Delhi police have a special unit staffed by 100 officers devoted to combatting crimes against women.

Greed

Deputy Police Commissioner Vimla Mehra who heads the crime women cell said the cause of 60 per cent of crimes against women is the failure of women's families to satisfy in-laws' insatiable desire for dowry cash and gifts.

Women's groups blame the passionate desire for consumer goods that many families can satisfy only by getting as much as possible in dowry for marrying their son.

Dowry can range in value from Rs 200 to 500,000 rupees (\$15 to 40,000), depending on the bridegroom's worth. In simple terms, a doctor is worth more than an engineer.

An anti-dowry advertising campaign in the Indian newspapers shows a picture of a young man with a "For sale" notice across his chest.

Studies show that dowry demands coming on top of the huge cost of lavish Indian weddings are often out of all proportion to a family's ability to pay and can cause economic ruin.



A 24-year-old woman lies in hospital with burns after she was set alight by her in-laws for not paying enough dowry. (Reuters wirephoto)

But worse problems come later, when the husband and his family, not satisfied with what they have extracted, begin to milk the bride's parents for more. Humiliation and violence are their weapons.

Case

In the dingy office of New Delhi's Saheli women's group, the woman who said she suffered beatings for 19 years told her story: "My parents-in-law and my husband, they wanted to kill me from the beginning of my marriage."

Eventually, she said, they decided to do it in her husband's family village in Haryana state north of Delhi.

"When they put me in a room by myself and gagged and blindfolded me I got very frightened and started struggling," she said, huddled in a shawl against Delhi's winter chill.

"I moved the cloth from my face and started screaming and all the people of the village came to see why I was screaming," she said.

That got her a brief reprieve, but later six of her in-laws beat her so badly she lost the sight in one eye. Her case is registered with the police, but no charges have been made.

She always returned to her married home even after being incarcerated in a mental asylum by her husband until discharged on her father's demand after three days.

That is not unusual, according

to a fulltime Saheli worker who asked to be identified only as Liz.

For an Indian woman and her parents a broken marriage is a disgrace and they will do anything to avoid the social stigma.

Liz said up to 10 women a day come into Saheli from Delhi and outside the city suffering from abuse.

"It is usually physical abuse," she said. "It may be just a bruise or two or it could be eyes hanging out on her cheek. But mental damage can be even worse."

In the first 11 months of 1987

there were 224 unnatural deaths of women in Delhi, according to the police.

Nine of them were murder, said Mehra, and 31 were recorded as dowry deaths under which a husband or relative can be held responsible for a woman's death if they are shown to have treated her cruelly.

However, a study prepared in July for the government by the Centre for Social Research in New Delhi, said there were very many more cases than police statistics showed.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1562 — Michel de L'Hopital promulgates edict of St Germain, which recognises Huguenots in France.
- 1595 — France's King Henry IV declares war on Spain.
- 1601 — Treaty of Lyons between France, Spain and Savoy; capital of Spain is transferred from Madrid to Valladolid.
- 1656 — Treaty of Koenigsberg between Sweden and Brandenburg.
- 1759 — Holy Roman Empire declares war on Prussia.
- 1852 — Sand River convention establishes South African republic of Transvaal.
- 1945 — Soviet troops and Polish patriot forces liberate Warsaw, more than five years after it fell to Nazi Germany in World War II.
- 1948 — Netherlands and Republic of Indonesia sign truce.
- 1959 — Federal state of Mali is formed by union of republics of Senegal and French Sudan.
- 1967 — Indonesia's Foreign Minister Adam Malik tells President Sukarno to resign or face alternative of being brought down in dishonour.
- 1987 — Iraq claims that air force squadron bombed headquarters of Ayatollah Khomeini in Tehran.

سازمان اطلاعات



A ROMAN column dating from the second century AD was pulled out of the Tiber River at Fiumara near Ostia, Jan 12. The column of African marble was found 10 years ago but could only be retrieved now by modern technology. (Reuter wirephoto)



PHILIPPINE President Corazon Aquino lights a candle as she calls for peace during a campaign rally on Friday for her candidate on Monday's local elections. (Reuter wirephoto)



ANSHITA ARYA FAR (left) kisses her mother as her sister Mitra (right) looks on. The two students share this joyful reunion after leaving hospital today where they spent the night upon their arrival from Gabon on Thursday. The two students were expelled by the French government last December 8, with fellow Iranian opposition Mujahidin group members who then began a hunger strike that ended upon their return. (Reuter wirephoto)



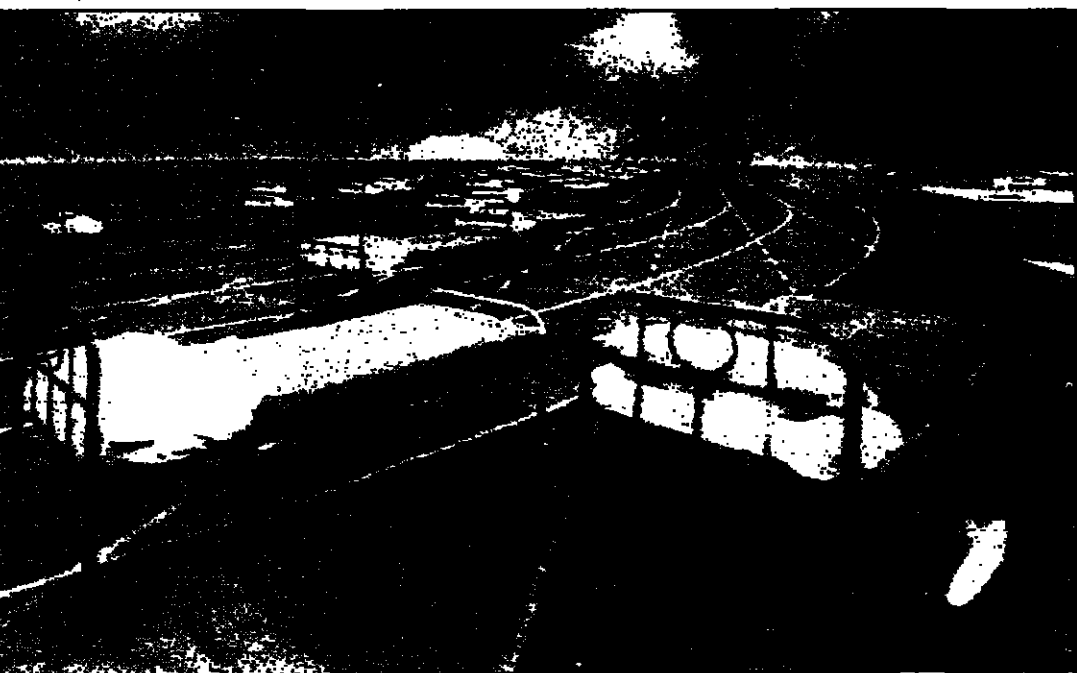
TANKS with troops loyal to Army Chief of Staff General Dante Caridi move among normal highway traffic on Friday. The tanks were mobilised from the Magdalena military base 80 km south of Buenos Aires, to dissuade rebel Lieutenant Colonel Aldo Rico, who led a military rebellion last Easter and is now challenging the authority of Caridi, who said he would use "blood and fire if necessary" to suppress Rico and his supporters. (Reuter wirephoto)



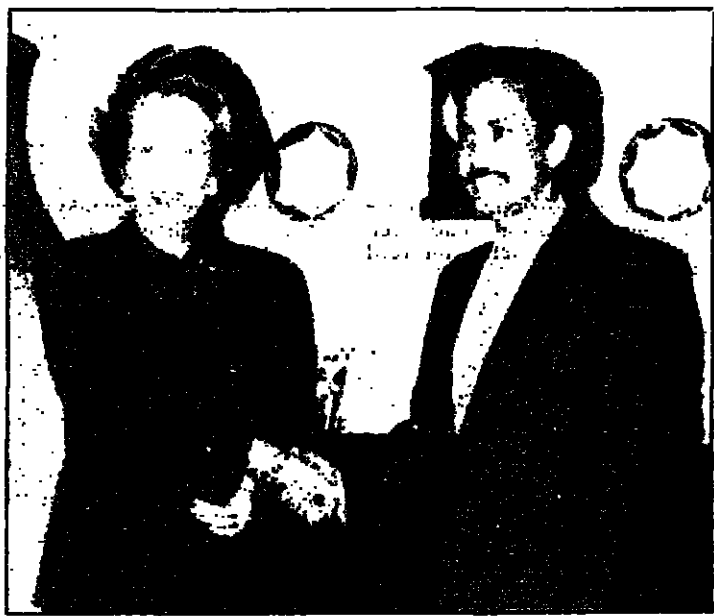
A BLACK servant holding a funeral programme weeps outside a hall where about 1,000 people — all white — attended a service for her former boss, South African right-wing ex-cabinet minister Connie Mulder. (Reuter wirephoto)



PALESTINIAN women and children from an east Lebanon refugee camp surround Palestinian deportee Hussam Hadar near the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) headquarters in the village of Ksara in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley on Friday. Some 100 Palestinian women and children welcomed four Palestinians expelled from Israel on Wednesday. (Reuter wirephoto)



ABOUT 200 beds stand on the track of Munich's Olympic stadium late Thursday to promote an open-air concert of the British pop group "Pink Floyd" and their newest record "Momentary Lapse of Reason." (Reuter wirephoto)



BRITAIN'S Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher welcomes His Majesty Sultan Hassanal Boulikah Nu'izzabdin Waddaulah of Brunei on his arrival at her official residence in London at No.10 Downing Street for talks. (Reuter wirephoto)



THE top three finishers of the women's World Cup downhill (all Swiss) left to right: Michela Figini, 2nd; Maria Walliser, 1st; Brigitte Gertli, 3rd. (Reuter wirephoto)



A WOMAN carries a plastic basket on her head in the empty Belaire Market in Port-Au-Prince Haiti yesterday morning. The streets of the capital were mostly deserted after an opposition coalition opposing tomorrow's presidential elections called for a general strike and a boycott of the elections. (Reuter wirephoto)



SOVIET delegation to the Geneva disarmament talks address a press conference in Geneva on Friday. Left to right are: Alexey Obukhov head of the Soviet delegation, Eugeny Makeyev and Yury Nazarkine, delegate to the disarmament talks. (Reuter wirephoto)



MOTHER tapir Eve keeps a protective eye on her baby, Chico at the London Zoo. It was the baby's first trip outside since being born on December 29. The baby will only keep her stripes for six months before becoming brown in colour. (Reuter wirephoto)



THOUSANDS of students carrying banners and flags demonstrate through the streets of Rome yesterday protesting Israel's policy in the occupied territories. (Reuter wirephoto)

ART

Stonemasons transform 'screaming anachronism'

Gothic art in Harlem

By James L. Tyson

NEW YORK: Ruben Gibson chisels a medieval saint in limestone with a clear staccato ring, beating an unlikely refrain above his Harlem neighborhood.

Mr Gibson also carves gargoyles and other figures for the Cathedral of St John the Divine, bringing Gothic art from 12th-century Europe to this area, which includes Columbia University on one side, Morningside Park on the other, and overlooks Harlem and the rest of upper Manhattan.

Along with 14 other stonemasons from depressed New York City communities, he is part of renewed construction after a 38-year hiatus on the world's largest Gothic cathedral, dubbed by New Yorkers "St John the Unfinished."

For seven years Gibson has made a living sculpting birds, beasts, and vines into some of the 24,000 stones for the cathedral's two west towers as part of a \$30 million building project.

The stonemasons are transforming what the Right Rev. Paul Moore Jr. calls a "screaming anachronism" — the cathedral — into a "weave of social conscience with the historical, religious, and architectural aspects of Christianity."

The stonemasons' training and industry exemplify the

ideal of merging socialism with Christian tradition, says Bishop Moore, the bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of New York. The cathedral, which already sponsors concerts, art exhibits, and resident artists like high-wire acrobat Philippe Petit, has sought to emulate a cathedral's traditional role in medieval Europe as the center of local culture and folk arts.

Church officials say the stonemasons, who come from local neighborhoods that annually benefit from some \$1 million worth of cathedral-sponsored social programmes, are giving something lasting to the community. Alan Bird, the British-born foreman of the project, recalls earlier workers "who died this century and last century dreaming that the cathedral would be complete." His aim is to ensure that the stonemasons continue that tradition of artistry.

Distance
From 1892 until 1911, stonemasons constructed a Romanesque crossing and high altar for the Harlem Heights cathedral. The death of the architect prompted a five-year hiatus and a switch to the Gothic style for the nave. Church leaders halted construction again in 1941 with the outbreak of World War II, and the cathedral sat neglected on its bluff overlooking Harlem until 1979.

With the high altar 601 feet from the rose window — nearly 200 feet farther than the distance from home plate to the centerfield wall at Yankee Stadium — most services are conducted in the crossing around a portable altar closer to the congregation. Above this altar the ceiling rises high enough to fit the 152-foot-tall Statue of Liberty under its central Romanesque dome.

Although Mr Bird says the unfinished cathedral is "too perpendicular and too well-proportioned and shaped" to match the irregular, "man made" beauty of its European counterparts, master stonemason Nicholas Fairplay adds that the "cathedral has energy because it's unfinished."

"It looks like a huge, growing organism," said Mr Fairplay, one of three Britons guiding the project. Cut and carved by local hands in three phases over nearly a century, the cathedral has avoided the "wedding cake" appearance of the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C., scheduled for completion in 1989 after 82 years of construction, he says.

While the first builders of the cathedral shaped stone assembly-line fashion, the British artisans have encouraged their American apprentices to work with one block until its completion. In the carving shed, five sculptors consult photographs of European cathedrals, perhaps studying a dancing peasant woman at Cologne or a snarling lion at Chartres.

Then they critique one another's carving "to make sure we stay with the Gothic style," says Gibson, the senior journeyman stonemason. Chiseling in the Gothic motif, they create a wide variety of beasts, human figures, and plants.

The stonemasons, working in the large metal warehouse known as the cutting room, avoid the use of modern-day pneumatic drills and sanders. Instead, they shape the stone the way medieval workers did, by hand, using chisels, with each worker leaving his own distinctive fretting on the stone called "boasting."



Ruben Gibson carves stone details at New York City's St John the Divine Cathedral.

Bird agrees that the cathedral has helped many of the workers earn a steady living in the midst of harsh ghetto life. But he says observers often "make a big deal about the theatrics of the church employing young people from this area who otherwise would be out of work."

"They're professionals, and there's no point getting so excited about their past," says Bird, who was also the master stonemason and foreman of a project to renew Wells Cathedral in Somerset, England.

"You don't want a cathedral to represent the kind of conveyor type of world people go to church to get away from," Bird says.

The journeymen stonemasons may leave a personal mark on the stone, but like the workers before them they probably will not see the cathedral completed. They plan to finish the south tower by St John's Day, Dec 27, 1992, 100 years after the ground-breaking, and put the last stone to the royal gallery and north tower in 1998.

But with the much larger north and south transepts and central tower still just part of the gift shop model, the work will go on well into the next century. Bird aims to start recruiting the children of the workers, particularly the nine-year-old son of Jose Tapia, the senior journeyman stonemason.

Surrounded by stonemasons chipping a way at rock in a quick, high melody, Mr Tapia, a 27-year-old resident of Spanish Harlem, says of his son: "I hope he picks it up — I pray to God he picks it up."

1988, The Christian Science Monitor.



The Federal Republic of Germany and the GDR are exchanging works of art 'evacuated' from their original art galleries or museums during World War II. Edward Munch's "Portrait of Dr. Linde," 1904, is to be returned from Munich to the GDR.

BONN: (DaD) The two German states are engaged in a comprehensive exchange of works of art. Museums and repositories in the Federal Republic of Germany are to return 140 paintings to the GDR, while 290 paintings are to be returned to the Federal Republic by the GDR. Paintings due to be exchanged are unofficially estimated to be worth DM200m.

Visitors to the Wiesbaden Städtisches Museum will soon be able to admire Tischbein's "Portrait of a Young Lady," which was evacuated from Hesse during the war, while Lukas Cranach the Elder's "Judgment of Paris" is to be returned to the Staatliche Galerie in Dessau, GDR. It was stored in the Harz as a World War II fire raid precaution.

The way was paved for the exchange in a minute to the May 1986 intra-German arts agreement. "The contracting parties declare themselves ready, within the means at their disposal, to seek solutions with regard to art treasures evacuated during the war." A Bonn government official in

Germans exchange displaced art works

charge of the arrangements says: "Everything is to be returned to its original location." The two sides agreed in November 1986 to an exchange of archive material. Paintings, drawings and prints are now to be exchanged, leaving sculpture and scientific collections relocated for safety's sake during the war to be returned to their original location.

As part of the exchange of paintings mainly second-rate works are to be returned to the Schlossmuseum in Darmstadt, the Wallraf-Richartz-Museum in Cologne and the Städtisches Museum in Wiesbaden. Works by Anselm Feuerbach and Lovis Corinth stand out among the westbound works of art. A number of very valuable works, including woodcuts by Albrecht Dürer and paintings by Lukas Cranach the Elder, Edward and Max Liebermann,

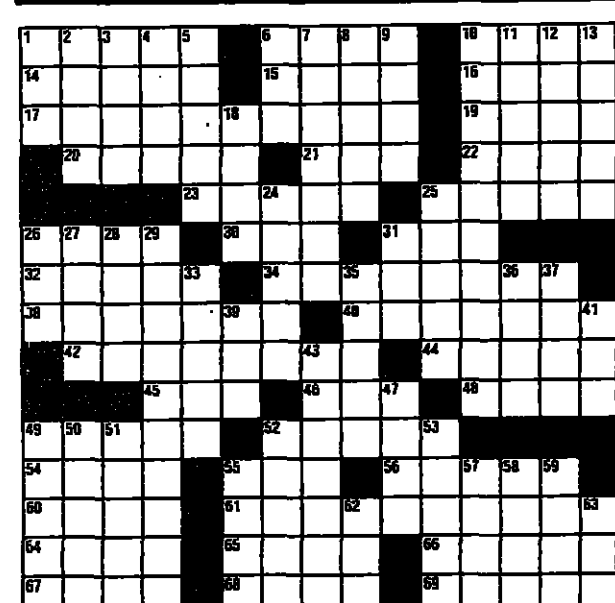
are to be returned to museums and galleries in the GDR. Critics in the Federal Republic of Germany have claimed that works to be returned to museums in the GDR are almost all paintings restored at great expense, whereas items to be returned to the West have in some cases been found on closer scrutiny at their GDR location, to be in very poor condition.

Exchanges of archive material have included the return of the document founding Rostock University to the Schwerin state archives and the return to Lubeck of the 1226 letter patent in which Holy Roman Emperor Friedrich II granted the city freedom of the Reich. In another move a medieval altar by Barthel Bryum was returned to Cologne by the Weimar Schlossmuseum.



Building project foreman removes dust from stone carving.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



ACROSS
1 Baubles
8 Ripens
10 Betsy or Diana
14 Playwright
15 "La Douce"
16 Golden Rule
17 Bath toy
19 Oktoberfest
20 Dogie catcher
21 Society page
22 Contentious
23 Rich dessert
25 Mister, in Madrid
26 Baltic feeder
30 Much-used
31 Showery mo.
32 Harris' story-telling
34 Scraps
38 Did acrobatics
40 Indication of acceptance
42 Itemize
44 Rocky debris
45 Slippery one
46 Actress

DOWN
1 "Cheers" locale
2 month
3 Diplomat-author
4 Coming-out
5 Beholds, biblical
6 Help
7 Oinked
8 Carson, for one
9 Benefit
10 Gawk
11 Tear-jerker?
12 Speed writer
13 More annoyed
18 Cheer
24 Valerie Harper
25 Pts. of bids
26 Scrap
27 Bible Book
28 Poet Lazarus

29 Latex source
31 French soul
33 Veered
35 Drab
36 Rolling rubber
37 Graf —
39 Room addition
41 Number for
43 Shake
47 Nobelist Wiesel
49 — and his money...
50 Golf club
51 Cosmetic plants
52 Cat's rubber toy
53 Miscue
55 In good shape
57 Qualified
58 Story
59 Arthurian lady
62 Wager
63 Former governor of Algiers

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

BLAIR CLAIN CLEM
ROBIN HIDE Ooze
ELECT ABIA LIRA
WATERCOLOR DRAN
EASE EGRESS
GRADER SCRAP
YOGI NASH RUSTY
MONSTER ALBANIA
SLICE ACRE ROLL
OCHRE HUDDLE
STELAE TRIAN
TYRO COLORATURA
ALAR AMIN BYRON
METE TEND LENTO
PROD ERIGO EISEN

GOREN BRIDGE

By Charles Goren and Omar Sharif

TRICK OR TREAT?

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ 6 2
♥ 9
♦ A K Q J 9 7 6 2
♣ K 4

WEST
♠ 9 8 7 5 4
♥ A 7 6 2
♦ 8 3
♣ Q 10

EAST
♠ J 3
♥ Q 3
♦ 5
♣ A 9 8 7 6 5 3

SOUTH
♠ A K Q 10
♥ K J 10 8 5 4
♦ 10 4
♣ 2

The bidding:

South West North East
2 Pass 6 Pass

Pass Pass

Opening lead: Queen of ♠

Experts argue about the effectiveness of leading an ace against a slam. The conventional wisdom is that, if your opponents know what they are doing, they are unlikely to be off two fast tricks, so leading an ace is more likely to help than hinder them. Since you will catch only air with your ace, you could be assisting the enemy in setting up a suit.

That holds true for rubber bridge. But what about duplicate, where not cashing an ace could result in your going to bed with it? As a result, you might allow your opponents to score an overtrick and, perhaps, a top

score. More and more players are recommending that it is wise to take tricks while you can.

This hand is from a recent duplicate event, and the West hand was held by a professional programmer, bridge teacher and writer, Harold Feldheim of Hamden, Conn., who is among the proponents of leading an ace against a slam. Here he chose to ignore his own advice, and watch what happened.

South's two diamond opening bid was the Flannery convention, which usually shows specifically four spades and five hearts. There is no book to tell you how to handle freak hands, so North took a stab at the diamond slam.

On such a blind auction, there is much to recommend the lead of an ace, for the opponents might be off two fast tricks. However, the ace was in the opening bidder's announced long suit, so Feldheim shied away from it in favor of a club lead.

It might seem that that would make no difference. But when dummy's king lost to the ace, East elected to play his partner for a singleton club rather than declarer. After a club return, the rest of the tricks were the declarer's. Note that, had the lead been the ace of hearts, the club shift would have been easy to find.

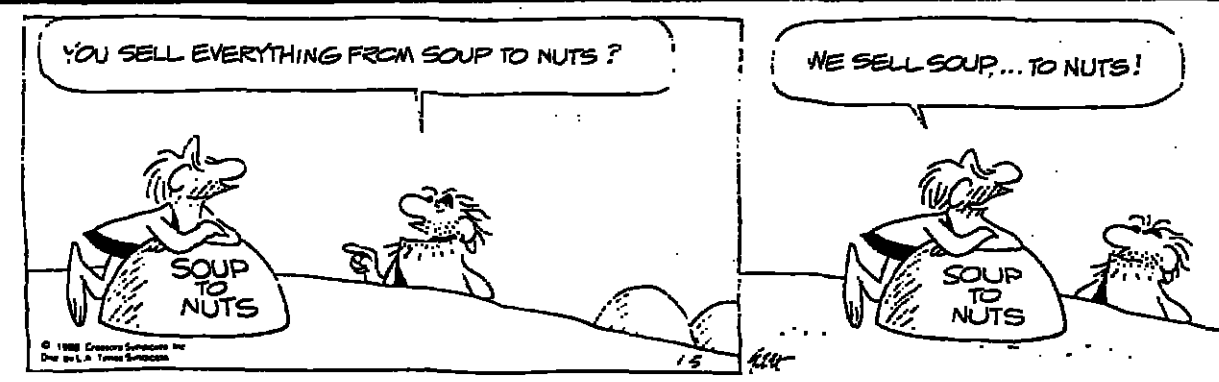
THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS

Aries (March 20 - April 18)

If you try to be too clever you could well be outwitted. You should do what has to be done today and then relax. Beware of spending more than you know you can afford. Be less obstinate.

Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

You should do all you can to increase harmony with your partner. If you act a little more slowly you will also act a little more surely. Try to show a fraction more goodwill towards others. Be resilient.

Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

There will be a tendency to jump to conclusions and many of them are liable to be wrong. You will have a bit of good luck but not quite in the way you had hoped.

Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

You are under more positive influences and will be able to do something you have long wanted to do. You should do all you can to keep calm and not to make up your mind on the spur of the moment.

Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)

You would do well to attend to matters by yourself instead of entrusting them to others. If there is a misunderstanding it will most likely be because you have not made yourself clear.

Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)

You are subject to mixed influences and should avoid doing anything too adventurous. You will have something to be really pleased about.

Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)

You should try to get as much as possible done in the morning and then spend the rest of the day relaxing. You should make sure you do not take things for granted nor should you believe that all is as you would wish it to be.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

You will meet someone much to your liking but you should not too soon drop your guard. Avoid gloomy thoughts or dwelling on the past. Make sure your partner does not feel dissatisfied with you. Be selective.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

The Moon's influence will help you to take a more positive attitude. You should not allow some triviality to become an obsession. Have a little more faith in yourself and confidence in others. Be benevolent.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan 19)

You should try to ensure that you do not do anything that would get on other people's nerves. Only when you think you have nothing more to learn are you too old to do so. You should not behave as though no one else but you mattered. Be loyal.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

You will have something to be pleased about but you have no reason to become smug. You should keep an open mind towards change, welcoming instead of resisting it.

Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)

Your mood will have its ups and downs and you should avoid doing anything rash. The more common sense you can bring to bear the better for you and those around you.

SNIPPETS

Constable shot dead outside Subic

OLONGAPO — Suspected communist guerrillas shot dead a Filipino constable outside a US military base near here, and one of the assassins was shot dead by police later, police said.

Paramilitary Constable Willie Abundo was on a bus passing by the Subic naval base and was believed to have been shot by one of three co-passengers wielding pistols, according to policemen in Subic town near this city northwest of Manila.

The suspects jumped off the bus and were pursued by Subic police, who killed one of them and captured another. The third escaped with the constable's automatic rifle. AFP.

23 die as rebels go on rampage

TWENTY-THREE persons were killed in a series of insurgency-related incidents over the three days, including a spectacular pre-dawn raid by communist rebels on the military detachment and town hall of Pidig, Ilocos Norte.

New People's Army rebels swooped down on the Pidig town hall, killing an officer — one day after he took command of the local detachment — and three of his men. The rebels fled at the break of dawn after a five-hour gunbattle where they suffered at least four casualties.

It was the bloodiest three-day period so far on the communist rebel front this year, compounding the already violent nationwide campaign for the Jan 18 local elections.

Increase in jobless rate

THE country's labour force stood at 23,317,000 of whom 20,854,000 were employed and 2,463,000 were unemployed as of July 1987, according to the Department of Labour and Employment (DOLE).

This translated into an employment rate of 89.4 per cent and an unemployment rate of 10.6 per cent.

The report which was prepared by the Bureau of Labour and Employment Statistics was submitted to Labour Secretary Franklin M. Drilon, who had ordered a status report of the employment of the country as guideline of the DOLE in its local and overseas employment programme.

Economy recovers steadily

THE Philippines' gross national product (GNP) rose 6.82 per cent in the third quarter to P21.579 billion continuing an economic recovery which began in 1986, the Central Bank (CB) has said.

Gross domestic product (GDP) also rose to P21.872 billion, up 5.4 per cent from 20.751 billion pesos (997 million dollars) in third quarter of 1986, the bank said in reports issued late Wednesday.

GNP in the third quarter was up from P20.202 billion in the same period last year, the bank said.

The bank figure also showed an \$84 million-dollar surplus in the balance of payments (BOP), compared with an \$8 million dollar deficit in the third quarter of 1986.

But the latest figure was slightly lower than the \$85-million BOP surplus registered in the first half of 1987.

The current account balance showed a \$219 million deficit, down from a \$286 million surplus in the third quarter last year.

The decrease was due largely to imports which jumped to \$1.89 billion from \$1.239 billion in the third quarter of last year, according to the documents.

However, exports also rose to \$1.499 billion from \$1.262 billion in the comparable period last year.

Capital accounts also improved with a net in-flow of \$202 million this year — there was a \$339 million outflow last year — while gross international reserves grew to \$2.111 billion from \$1.710 billion in the third quarter of 1986.

Domestic money rose to P49.739 billion in September this year, from P39.514 billion in the comparable period last year, according to the documents.

The peso depreciated 0.7 per cent with the exchange rate at P20.60 to the dollar in September.

Domestic inflation meanwhile rose by an average rate of 6.3 per cent in the third quarter of 1987, compared to the negative 1.4 per cent inflation in comparable period last year.

Asian women are 'social' dirt, warns German

Filipinas face 'fake' weddings in Germany

FILIPINO women who are being lured by matchmakers into marriage with West Germans may be better off abandoning the prospect.

That they could be stepping into a life of degradation, enslavement and regret, as has been reported by the press many times before, is once again attested to by a West German.

Joachim Heimrath, 37, was in the Philippines recently to wage a personal campaign against so-called marriage bureaus, and to continue to urge the West German Government to do something about the problem.

Mr Heimrath, who recently met with members of the Stop Trafficking of Filipinas (STOP), says he was head of three language schools in Germany. But because of his campaign against the exploitation of Filipino women, he was "pressured" into leaving Germany.

His action, which included writing some 25,000 letters to political parties, politicians, institutions and individuals, has "embarrassed" his Government, says Mr Heimrath.

He says the German press used to be full of stories of Filipino and other Asian women falling into all sorts of sorry situations because of the matchmaking ploy. But such is no longer "hot" news as the stories have become commonplace.

He cautions Filipino women against believing the rosy picture that may be painted by other women who have gone to Germany to marry. "Of course no one would admit to leading a dog's life. Some girls get mentally broken," he says.

Claims

Mr Heimrath claims that in German society, marriage to a Filipino, an Asian, brings one several notches down in social status. "That is because our society looks at Asian women as 'dirty' socially." Thus a respectable German is not likely to go looking for an Asian bride if his intention is to treat her as his equal.

But why do marriage bureaus thrive?

Asians are now the attraction for Germans, according to Mr Heimrath. The clients are told



that the girls are "sexual acrobats."

At the same time, the man gets the assurance that his bride is a "virgin," although sexual prowess and virginity seem hard to reconcile.

But the underlying attraction probably lies in the fact that the wife-seeker is convinced he is getting someone to do his bidding from polishing his shoes to pleasing him in bed.

The so-called marital adjustment is one-way, says Mr Heimrath. It is the girl who has to fit into the man's life, whims and schedules and all.

Also, Filipino women are easy on the pocket. She only gets an allowance and only according to the husband's estimate of what she needs.

Mr Heimrath explains the German male's lack of sympathy for his Asian bride by the fact that Germans usually know nothing about life in the Third World. They do not appreciate the sacrifice an Asian woman makes when she leaves her country almost in desperation, only because she hopes to bail her family out of poverty or to give her younger siblings a better chance in life. "German men only know that Filipino women can be made to do anything," says Mr Heimrath.

Previous news reports on the mail-order bride business reveal that German men who seek a wife among Asians are usually middle-aged with set and conservative views on how spouses should relate to each other.

Usually, they are unable to find "suitable" partners among their compatriots, many of whom no longer want to put up with "doormat" treatment, say the reports.

Besides, Mr Heimrath adds, a foreigner is easier to boot out of the house when she no longer fills a need or stops conforming to one's wishes. About 50 per cent of mixed marriages end up in divorce, he says.

Worse still, everything works against the foreigner spouse. Because she became a German citizen only by virtue of her marriage, divorce strips her of her citizen status and with this her rights. If there are children, they go to the husband. "Whatever you do, you're stuck," Mr Heimrath points out.

Immigration laws also work in the men's favour. Foreigners can enter and stay in Germany for three months without a visa. So within this period, a German spouse-seeker can make up his mind if the girl he "bought" from the matchmaker or marriage bureau is worth marrying. Otherwise, he can "kick her out and the police finish the job by expelling the girl from the country."

A STOP member has pointed out that non-requirement of a visa works against the girls since the Philippine embassy could not trace them unless they themselves volunteer a visit to the embassy.

Mr Heimrath, who undertook his own investigation of marriage bureaus in Germany by posing as a customer, admonishes Filipino women "to have more pride in themselves" by rejecting the bed-of-roses kind of life wangled by these entities.

Some Germans who set up marriage bureaus lead the women to believe that theirs is a respectable agency. One bureau head which Mr Heimrath "did business with," he says, is actually a soft drinks delivery man.

He also reveals that match-making agents usually have a Filipina for a wife. One agent he approached had a sister-in-law in the Philippines who did the recruiting.

Mr Heimrath, in fact, got started on his anti-matchmaking crusade when he helped one

Eating the kamayan way

By Ross De Leon

EATING with one's bare hands is a tradition deep in the history of the Filipinos. However, it did not fare well with the Spanish *conquistadores* who came to the islands in 1521. Along with a host of other practices, eating with bare hands was considered uncivilized by the colonizers who tried to put an end to the practice.

For centuries, eating with the hands was ignored and merely consigned to the rural areas, among the working class and the poverty-stricken masses. Then it would become part of picnics, eating by the beach or under a tree. In a formal dining room, it was unthinkable.

It took Tito Eduque to bring back the glory of eating, the *kamayan* way. It was an idea that came up during a party on August 26, 1977 and Eduque, sportsman that he is, could not resist the challenge. By then, five-star hotels were on the rise so with restaurants specializing on Filipino dishes.

For Eduque and his companions — Jose and Lita Baltazar, his nephew, Vic Vic Villa-

vicencio and daughter, Tootsie E. Marco — the challenge of establishing a restaurant offering native cuisine was too much to resist. Eating without the silverware was definitely a bold approach, for it meant breaking a habit, going against some accepted norm. But a little mistake could make it look like transgressing hallowed grounds or defying a tradition for the sake of looking different. Villavicencio for one, gave their venture a six-month lease to survive. However, even before the sixth-month was reached, the group knew that they had made it. The courageous move — the return to a historic past in Filipino dining — was accepted with enthusiasm and without question.

The approach was cautious and the first dishes served were not the messy ones like the broiled, grilled, roasted or fried varieties. When the patrons started looking for *kare-kare*, *sinigang*, etc., Eduque's group succumbed. Today, *Kamayan* can lay claim to being the first, the original, and Eduque can very well be the "King of *kamayan*." He once lorded it over the hardcourt both as a valuable athlete and

coach. In the restaurant, he brings the same "dedication and meticulous planning" for which he was well-known in sports.

The originality of the concept extends to the menus expertly organized by Villavicencio. Nevertheless, any member of the *Kamayan* family is conscious of having eyes and ears alert when it comes to discovering unheard of, exotic regional dishes. No native dish is too grand or too lowly at *Kamayan* "where even ordinary food is transformed into fiesta fare." Businessman, sportsman and chef all rolled into one, Villavicencio is responsible for continuously restocking, developing and improving the restaurant's menu. A certain taste, a unique presentation, a perfect ambience became the hallmarks of *Kamayan*'s service.

The reputation established by the restaurant rests on two important factors: the food — reheating, re-cooking, pre-mixed or pre-cooked ingredients is not even thought of; and the service — the staff should always be treated and paid well so they will give their best to their work.

Some of Imelda's famous shoes are on display, including a pair with battery-powered, flashing lights built into the 7.5-centimeter (three-inch) spike heels.

Ms Quires said 1,060 pairs of Imelda's shoes — all size eight or eight-and-a-half — were found in the palace. The 3,000 figure widely reported was wrong, she said.

"Maybe that was the number she had around the country altogether," she said.

Imelda loved to preach "Buy Filipino." But she did not practice this. All but five pairs of her shoes found in the palace were foreign made.

There then are the bulletproof vests Marcos wore and the bulletproof corsets for Imelda.

A 50,000-dollar ermine opera coat hangs from one rack. Five silver fox stoles sit on a shelf.

One storeroom has scores of perfume boxes and hundreds of small, gift-wrapped packages Ms Quires said also contain perfume.

"Imelda always bought many of everything so she would have giveaways," she explained.

Home is the best for Filipino maids

By Ding T. Marcello

LOTTA PETALCORIN had a lot of things going for her. She is pretty, has a good education, and her family in Bohol is respected in the community, her mother having served as undefeated mayor in one of the towns there.

But Lotta, 29, was restless. She wanted adventure. She wanted to go abroad. Then an opportunity presented itself when a family friend told her they were recruiting maids to work in Singapore.

Lotta thought this was the chance she was looking for. She sold her thriving restaurant business, said goodbye to her mother and two sisters and a brother, and boarded a plane for Singapore.

"When I was in Bohol," she recounted, "I had my own maid. Someone did errands for me, washed my clothes, cooked my food. I practically did not do anything except study, and then later, manage the restaurant."

Lotta had two employers in Singapore. The first one she left because they did not comply with the contract that allowed her a day off every two weeks.

"I told them I would complain to the authorities," she said. "I read the contract and I knew my rights."

Perhaps to avoid trouble, her employers decided to let her go. Her second job lasted six months. Now, Lotta is on her way home. She is on board the same plane that Leonida Raquel has taken. Lotta was telling those around that she wasn't home for good yet, that she was just going home for Christmas.

Lotta says her second employer was not really bad. She liked them. She had come to see them as her family. In turn, she says, they treat her like one of them.

"The only trouble is that I don't like my job anymore," she says.

According to Lotta, her job was to take care of an 80-year-old bed-ridden family patriarch who had suffered a stroke.

"They are rich," she explains and apparently the source of the family's good fortunes.

At first, she says, she took her job seriously. But after a few months, she got tired of it all. She disliked the idea of having to stay in Singapore to help an 80-year-old take a bath, clean his bedding, attend to his toilet needs and feed him.

There were times, she recalls, when the old man even tried to make a pass at her. On many instances, she also saw the old man playing with his "thing," occasions which seemed to happen just when she would be entering his room.

"But it was considered by everyone in the family as good nature fun and I also considered it that way. After all, what else can he do?" she said.

But soon the routine got boring, Lotta says.

She mentions that the accommodations were not bad, she had all the food she wanted to eat, all the fruits she could gorge.

"I got fat in that house," she laughs.

But there was something missing, she says. She wanted to enjoy her stay. She wanted to have fun. And taking care of an old man, who stayed in the house all day was not much fun.

"I did for that man what I never did for my father," Lotta says. "I sometimes feel guilty about it."

So Lotta told her employers she wanted to have a nice stay in Singapore, and that if they didn't mind, she wanted to look for another job, another employer.

Her employers were saddened. They had come to like the way she treated the old man. They offered to increase her salary from 250 Singapore dollars to 350.

But she told them she was not in Singapore for the money.

Anyway, she says her employers told her, the final decision was hers. They were willing to take her in again should she change her mind.

Lotta says she does not know whether she will really go back to Singapore. Her mother had been asking her to come back home and stay here permanently.

"We were talking long distance practically once every week," she says.

Her mother had been against her going to Singapore. She's worried about what their neighbours and friends would say. They might think she cannot afford to buy food, and that's why you're going to work as a domestic, her mother would say.

But Lotta assured her there was nothing to worry about. She simply wanted to live her life the way she saw fit.

Now that she is home, what does she really want to do? "I don't know, perhaps get married," she said.

Japanese men adapt Philippines ways

By Nao Nakanishi

OKURA, Japan. (Reuters): A Japanese village that has arranged 11 marriages between young women from the Philippines and lonely local bachelors has attracted nationwide attention from other communities where females are scarce.

But the village councillor who master-minded the campaign warns that many problems lurk behind the attempt to build cross-cultural marital bliss, especially when couples at first cannot even talk to each other.

"There is a danger of the Filipinas becoming prey to the money Japanese men have," match-making councillor Shigeo Mori said.

Okura village, in the mountains of northern Japan, has had over 300 enquiries from elsewhere in the country about the marriages. Professional marriage-brokers are also interested.

"The Philippines is a multi-cultural society and young Filipina girls seem to decide to marry Japanese and come to Japan almost casually, as if it were only the next village," Mori said.

Realize

"Only later do they realize that their view of the kind Japanese men they first meet and their hopes for a higher standard of living are to some extent an illusion," he said.

But Mori and the rest of Okura village have put a lot of effort into making the women feel at home and so far there are no serious problems.

Nine out of the 11 women who have arrived in the past year are already pregnant.

"After overcoming the first difficulties, they have started to enjoy," Mori said.

"Everybody is very kind and I am happy," said Imelda Hayasaki, 18, who arrived in September from Bicol village in the north of the main Philippine island of Luzon, a week after meeting her 43-year-old husband there.

"Only the food and the language are difficult," she added as she knelt Japanese-style on the living room tatami mat, a cup of Japanese tea steaming in front of her.

She lives with her husband and parents-in-law in a farmhouse in the mountains above Okura, surrounded by fields and woods where she helps her husband,

Masaki, gather mushrooms and wild vegetables.

Okura and some other villages suffer a shortage of young local women because many leave home for the excitement and high salaries of city life.

With winter approaching, Imelda will soon see snow for the first time in her life.

Smiled

Masaki smiled happily and said Imelda had brightened up the family farmhouse. But he added: "Could you please explain my job to my wife and find out if she has any problems now?"

The first hurdle is language. Imelda speaks Tagalog and English, Masaki only Japanese. Books on how to learn all three are piled up around the room.

Another problem is how to come to terms with very different social customs.

Japanese like to throw drinking parties at which women are expected to drink sake wine, a traditional sign of affection. Imelda is not impressed. "I do not like it and I feel attacked," she said.

She said Filipinas found it hard to understand why their husbands worked so hard and spent so little time relaxing.

"Japanese men are busy from morning to night, while Filipinos would take it more easy," she said.

Mori said struggles between young wives and mothers-in-law were probably fiercer than in usual in Japan because of the greater individuality of Filipinas.

He said a Filipina did not understand why her husband's mother made the family's financial decisions, including how to spend money that the young wife earned herself. Mothers-in-law also like to tell their daughters-in-law how to raise their children.

"The Filipinos also feel forlorn and lonely with our especially shy, closed and silent Japanese men," said Mori.

Religion is another issue. The 11 Filipinas are Roman Catholics and the village has no church.

Mori said they had discussed building one, but at the moment have to drive on Sundays to a church an hour and a half away.

But the husbands are doing their best to adapt to the strange ways of their wives, Mori said.

"They are even giving them flowers for their birthdays," he laughed.

Imelda's treasure trove still big attraction

By James W. Hatton

MANILA, Philippines. (AP): Thousands of Filipinos pass through the lavishly decorated Malacanang palace every weekend to catch a glimpse of the treasure trove that Ferdinand and Imelda Marcos left behind.

The fountain-size perfume bottles, silver fox stoles and shoes Mrs Marcos bought in immense quantity can still be seen nearly two years after the Marcoses hastily fled to exile in Hawaii.

Not all 54 rooms and 35 bathrooms are open to the public. But enough are shown to give visitors a view of a lifestyle of unimaginable wealth, distance and, for the most part, plain bad taste.

The two-storey, white stucco residence where the Marcoses lived during his 20-year rule lies by the passing river in the heart of Manila. It was home to 14 Spanish governors-general, 13 American civil governors and nine Philippine presidents starting with Manuel L. Quezon in 1935.

The palace, the seat of power

in the Philippines, is still used for state dinners, weekly cabinet meetings and other official functions.

But president Corason Aquino chose not to live there when she was swept to power in the February 1986 "people power" revolution that ousted Marcos. Her office is in an anteroom of the building where Marcos held court.

Mrs Aquino kept a campaign promise and turned the presidential residence into a museum.

So every Saturday, when admission is free, about 5,000 curious Filipinos troop in for a look at how the Marcoses once lived.

Every weekday, except when the cabinet meets Wednesday, hourlong guided tours are available for 200 pesos (10 dollars), courtesy of the non-profit Museo NG Malacanang that Mrs Aquino created to preserve the building.

About 400 to 500 people, mostly foreigners, are escorted through the palace daily, according to tour guides Dianna Quires and Eupenia Page.

Malacanang was built in 1720

when Spain ruled the Philippines. Many of the floors are covered with thick red carpet — others are polished hardwood. Pictures of past presidents adorn the walls in gilt-edged frames. Large, sparkling, imported chandeliers hang from the ceilings.

All the windows are bullet-proof.

At the end of one room are doors made of coloured plastic, bearing images of the Marcoses as they saw themselves — "Beautiful Imelda" and "Strong Ferdinand."

A dozen works of the American painter Grandma Moses adorn one hallway.

The Marcoses boasted of their good health, but their bedrooms contain massive oxygen bottles and other medical equipment that suggest otherwise.

Imelda inhaled oxygen frequently, thinking it would keep her young, Ms Quires said.

There is a hospital room on the ground floor, with a dialysis machine, an adjoining laboratory and a dental office next door.

Marcos had a kidney illness that "probably began in 1984," Ms Quires said. He also occasionally took steroids.

The bedrooms, on the upper floor are large, dark, gloomy places. The large-screen television set, expensive stereo system, huge perfume bottles and the double-queen-size bed in Imelda's room, which she claimed was patterned after the bedroom of Marie Antoinette, do not make it seem homey or comfortable.

"There also was a grand piano in here but it was taken out," Ms Quires said.

A home computer on a table near Marcos' bed was not connected to the outside world, contrary to popular belief, she said.

The bedroom has a secret passageway in case Marcos needed to escape from the palace.

The kitchen on the ground floor is modern, with a dozen or so brightly polished copper pots and pans hanging on the wall.

But it is the storerooms on the ground floor that fascinate most visitors.

They contain rack after rack of unopened shirts for Marcos and

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Norway and Soviet Union discuss oil cooperation

OSLO, Jan 16, (Opecna): Norway and the Soviet Union, both non-Opec oil producers, might look into ways of establishing oil cooperation, though a closer examination of the subject was necessary, according to Egil Hille, spokesman at the Norwegian Ministry of Oil and Energy. He told Opecna today that although the question was raised at a meeting here this morning between Norwegian Oil and Energy Minister Arne Oeien and his visiting Soviet counterpart Vasily Dinkov, nothing "solid" was decided.

"Discussions on the subject of oil cooperation between Norway and the Soviet Union was actually more in the nature of thinking aloud," he said, adding that although the Soviet visitor had expressed an interest in secondary recovery techniques, the oil extraction scene varied in the two countries.

"Our oil activities are primarily offshore, while those of the Soviet Union are land-bound," he said.

Dinkov is currently here accompanying Soviet Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov, who is on a three-day official visit.

The Soviet minister was also reported to have proposed an exchange of information with Norway on developments in the oil market.

Austrian aid to Third World 'gloomy'

VIENNA, Jan 16, (Opecna): Official Austrian development aid to Third World countries was described here today as 'gloomy' by Erich Andrik, director of the Vienna Institute for Development.

In an interview with Opecna, Andrik said unless enough funds were raised, the current development assistance rate of 0.21 per cent of GNP would 'nose-dive' to 0.12 per cent next year.

The United Nations set a target of 0.70 per cent of a country's GNP in 1975, one which few OECD countries have met. On the other hand, Opec countries have exceeded the UN level many times over.

Earlier, Austria's Foreign Minister Alois Mock stated that Austria had fallen far behind in development aid and needed to improve its performance.

The Austrian Press Agency (APA) quoted him as telling a press conference that Austria was last among OECD donor nations.

Responding to a question about the country's representation in Africa, the minister said direct aid was given to the poorest of the poor in Third World countries.

According to Mock, "food and emergency aid together with contributions to education" are more vital.

Ms Waltraud Horvath, an Austrian member of parliament, called here on Wednesday for a substantial increase in Austrian budget funds for development aid and urged a separation between aid and export credits by the government to Austrian firms.

Horvath, who is also a member of the Foreign Ministry's development aid council, criticised plans for restructuring development aid.

Chinese city offers business opportunity to foreigners

BEIJING, Jan 16, (AP): The Chinese coastal city of Fuzhou has announced that foreign businessmen will be allowed to buy or hold shares in some state-owned enterprises, a newspaper said today.

The official China Daily said foreigners have never before been invited to own part or all of a Chinese state-run business.

City Communist Party Secretary Yuan Qitong was quoted as having said yesterday that foreign businessmen may buy shares in large state-owned corporations and can appoint their own managers. They also will be encouraged to buy small- and medium-sized enterprises, he said.

Yuan said the city would auction off both poorly managed and money-making enterprises.

The decision to invite foreign participation in state-owned firms came after Communist Party General Secretary Zhao Ziyang visited the city earlier this month and urged local officials to "open wider" in promoting economic reforms.

Weekly Wall Street report

Computer-driven stock trading back in spotlight

NEW YORK, Jan 16, (AP): Three months after the crash of 1987, the controversy over computer-driven stock trading remains as intense as ever on Wall Street.

After the stockmarket sent a chill through the investment world with a sharp drop on Jan 8, critics said programme traders were to blame. The New York Stock Exchange decided this past week to experiment with curtailing programme activity in sessions when the market experiences wide swings.

Trepidation
After the Dow Jones industrial average rose 113 points in the first four sessions of 1988, and then fell 140 the next day, many Wall Streeters began the past week in a mood of trepidation.

As it turned out, the big drop wasn't the immediate prelude to a reply of Black Monday Oct 19. Nevertheless, many analysts felt less than a sense of total relief.

"This volatility is getting to us all," said Greg Smith at Prudential-Bache Securities in his current commentary on the market.

In Smith's view, the wide swings stem in part from the fact that "financial technology has gotten ahead of the market's ability to digest the massive changes computers can create."

"It reminds me of the practice of medicine, where medical technology has, for the moment, outstripped the legal and ethical code of the profession, and debates rage about how best to deal with what the technology can accomplish," he said.

Incapacitated
Philip Erlanger, chief technical analyst at the firm of Advest Inc., argues that trading strategies using stock index futures and other derivative products have "seriously incapacitated" the primary functions of the stock market.

The market exists, he observes, to provide capital for business and to allow individual investors to participate in the growth of those businesses.

"The volatility of stock prices, caused by portfolio insurance and index arbitrage, has closed numerous corporate finance operations and curtailed the

activity of many others," he contends. "The morale of individual investors has been more than singed."

The past week went into the books as the crash that didn't happen. In fact, aided by news of an improvement in the nation's trade balance, the Dow Jones industrial average rose 44.76 to 1,956.07.

Gained
The NYSE's Composite Index gained 4.13 to 141.16; the American Stock Exchange Market Value Index 1.87 to 268.31, and the Nasdaq Composite Index for the over-the-counter market 1.67 to 340.14.

Big Board volume averaged 163.45 million shares a day, against 186.74 million the week before.

Meanwhile the announcement by the Commerce Department that the November deficit fell to \$13.2 billion from 17.6 billion in October electrified traders, giving them some of the best news since the October stock market crash.

The Dow Jones average, which had dropped 8.62 points

on Thursday, shot up more than 50 points in hectic trading as the market opened. It held around that level until the final half hour, when it slipped a bit in the final 30 minutes to close up 39.96 points at 1,956.07.

Broader market indexes also rose sharply. Stocks rising in price outnumbered falling issues by about 5-to-1 on the New York Stock Exchange.

"A lot of guys were gambling it was going to go the other way. They only had a 50-50 chance of being right," said Robert O'Toole, manager of over-the-counter trading at Shearson Lehman Brother Inc. in New York.

The markets have been obsessed with the monthly trade statistics because it is perceived as one of the most visible measurements of American economic health and competitiveness, with profound effects on interest rates, consumer buying, manufacturing and employment.

In US bond-market trading, the Treasury's key 30-year issue jumped about \$25 per \$1,000 in face amount by late afternoon. Its yield, which moves inversely

to price and is an important signal of interest rate trends, dropped 8.76 per cent from 9.02 per cent late Thursday.

The most dramatic immediate reaction was in the foreign-exchange markets, where brokers scrambled to buy dollars. In New York, the US currency climbed to nearly 131 Japanese yen, up more than 4 yen from late Thursday. The dollar also advanced to nearly 1.69 West German marks, up from 1.63 late Thursday.

America's relentless trade deficits have put tremendous pressure on the dollar, which has fallen by 50 per cent against the yen and lost significant value versus other major currencies in the past three years.

Devaluation
The dollar's devaluation has raised prospects for higher inflation and aroused fears of foreign flight from US securities. But Friday's trade numbers suggested the dollar could start rising again, inciting heavy demand for the currency. This eased inflation pressure and helped rally stocks and bonds.

Congress may cut spending

US budget deficit estimated to near \$165b

WASHINGTON, Jan 16, (AP): Early estimates by the Congressional budget office indicate that next year's US government budget deficit could approach \$165 billion, Congressional aides said yesterday.

The preliminary projection, if true, could mean that Congress will have to come up with more spending reductions and revenue increases than they thought would be necessary.

Projections
The budget office, which studies the economy and the budget for Congress, sent its latest projections for economic performance to congressional committees last week.

The estimates will be adjusted in the next few weeks as economic statistics for late 1987 become available. The new numbers will provide a more complete picture of the effect the Oct 19 stock market crash has had on

the economy. Congressional staff workers, who asked not to be identified, said the preliminary economic figures would produce a fiscal 1989 deficit in the \$155 billion to 165 billion range. Fiscal 1989 begins Oct 1.

The administration's office of management and budget said last week that it estimated the 1989 deficit will be \$136 billion—exactly enough to meet the requirement of the Gramm-Rudman budget-balancing law.

Designed
Before leaving for its month-long Christmas recess in December, Congress passed legislation designed to reduce the deficit by \$76 billion over the next two years. The bills were a product of the budget summit agreement reached between Reagan and Congressional leaders following the stock market plunge.

Meanwhile, the US industrial

output climbed 5.2 per cent in 1987, almost five times the previous year's gain and the best showing for American industry since 1984, the government reported yesterday.

The big rebound, analysts said, was brought about by the weaker dollar, which has made American goods competitive once again on overseas markets.

Output
The US Federal Reserve said production at American factories, mines and utilities edged up just 0.2 per cent in December as widespread gains in many industries were offset by a sharp drop in the production of autos.

The December advance followed gains of 0.4 per cent in November and 1.1 per cent in October.

Even with the slower advance last month, the improvement for the year was 5.2 per cent, the best

yearly performance since a 6.2 per cent rise in 1984.

Industrial production rose only 1.1 per cent in 1986 following a 2.2 per cent gain in 1985, two years when American manufacturers were battered by stiff foreign competition.

In a separate report yesterday, the Commerce Department said that the US trade deficit narrowed to \$13.2 billion in November as US exports surged to a record level of \$23.8 billion.

Analysts said they expect further healthy increases in industrial production in the New Year as American producers continue to benefit from the boom in exports.

"Our smokestack industries are coming back to life, mainly due to export demand," said David Jones, an economist with Aubrey G. Lanston and Co., a government bond dealer in New York.

EEC officials to discuss Gulf cooperation pact

BAHRAIN, Jan 16, (Reuters): Two European Economic Community officials will visit Saudi Arabia this week for talks on political and economic cooperation with Gulf nations, a Western diplomat in Riyadh said today.

The diplomat did not identify the officials but said they would arrive on Friday. "The officials' mandate will be mainly political," he said.

A cooperation accord between the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and Community was first suggested at a meeting of Community foreign ministers last November.

Claude Cheysson, EEC commissioner for North-South relations, said at the time an accord could start with commitments by both sides not to introduce new trade barriers, plus steps to boost political, industrial and scientific cooperation.

EEC proposes to allow banks to operate across borders

BRUSSELS, Jan 16, (AP): The European Economic Community yesterday proposed to allow banks to operate across national borders as part of its broader campaign to abolish internal frontiers by 1992.

The EEC Executive Commission, which drew up the plan, said it represents "a very important step" toward creating a borderless Europe.

Lord Cockfield, the EEC trade commissioner, told a news conference he hoped the plan would be adopted by the member governments by the end of this year and implemented by the end of 1990.

He said the most innovative feature of the proposal was the establishment of a Community license that would allow banks to operate throughout the 12-nation trading bloc.

A bank authorised to operate in one EEC country automatically would be entitled to set up branches elsewhere in the common market without separate authorisation from the

host country, Cockfield said.

Non-EEC banks wishing to operate in the EEC, he said, would have to satisfy not only the legal requirements of the host country but also EEC demands for reciprocity.

Currently, any bank established in one EEC country must apply for authorisation from all the other countries in which it wants to conduct business. It is subsequently subject to the laws of the host country.

Subject
Branch banks would be subject to the laws of the country in which their home office is situated, rather than to those of the host country.

Cockfield said home country control, mutual recognition and harmonisation of banking regulations were the "essential principles" on which the plan was based.

An EEC banking license, he said, would be valid for a range of activities, including trading in securities, managing portfolios, leasing and handling loans and

deposits.

The plan proposed a series of operation standards, such as minimum capitalisation requirements, record keeping and disclosure of corporate information. Involvement in non-banking activities would be limited to a maximum of 50 per cent of the bank's own funds.

Cockfield said the EEC "must absolutely protect its position" in the current round of world trade liberalisation talks and therefore the new banking rules would not be applied to non-EEC banks.

The existing rules under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade apply only to trade in goods. Extending those rules to cover trade in services is a major issue in the current round of GATT trade negotiations.

Cockfield said the Commission will be making further proposals before Easter on bank's solvency requirements, which, together with existing legislation, would complete EEC regulation in the banking sector.

London Stock Exchange offers computer services for members

LONDON, Jan 16, (UPI): The London Stock Exchange announced today it is moving deeper into computer-based services for member firms and customers with a new screen for checking and matching deals in international shares.

London already claims to be the world's leading market in non-domestic shares.

Turnover
Daily turnover can approach £900 million (\$1.62 billion) a day.

The new checking service, known as "sequal", is being introduced to speed up and simplify the checking of deals, which can range from £100,000 (\$180,000) to over £1 million (\$1.80 million) at a time.

At the moment, deals are confirmed in a number of ways, including telex messages. But frequent discrepancies with unmatched bargains running into "tens of millions of pounds" create "an extremely worrying problem," the exchange said.

To speed up the confirming of a deal and eliminate risks, sequal will enable a bargain to be

checked within as little as 5 minutes.

The system can also be used for automatic reporting of deals required under regulation rules.

By the time sequal goes into effect at the end of this year, some £7 million (\$12.6 million) will have been invested by the stock exchange.

Indonesia sticks to tin output quota

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 16, (Opecna): Indonesia, now the world's second largest tin producer, has always adhered to output quotas as set by the Association of Tin Producing Countries (ATPC), according to Sudjatmiko, president of Tambang Timah, the state tin company.

Sudjatmiko, who attended a meeting of ATPC's executive board in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, categorically denied that Indonesia had gone beyond its yearly quota of 24,516 tonnes of tin as fixed under an agreement by the association.

The meeting, which ended yesterday, evaluated the association's quota system introduced in March last year and discussed preparations for the next ministerial ATPC conference.

ATPC believes that by limiting the overall tin output of its members to 96,000 tonnes a year, it can strengthen world prices.

Total ATPC tin output currently accounts for 65 per cent of world production.

World Business Summary

US banks wrestling with Third World loans

ANN ARBOR, Michigan, Jan 16, (Renter): US regional banks, still wrestling with precarious loans to Latin America, say they have no intention of lending more money to developing countries anytime soon. "We have become increasingly hardened in our views on new debt," William Flynn, senior vice president of the National Bank of Detroit's international division, said yesterday at a conference on Third World debt. Flynn praised the passing of the old practice of US banks acting in unison to reschedule developing-country debt to a new trend of individual banks independently choosing their own methods of dealing with problem loans. "One of the initial difficulties we had was accepting the concept of fair share and that all the banks were in this together," Flynn said. Flynn said regional banks, defined as major banks outside New York City and California, were responsible for 35 per cent of developing-country loans, while money centres hold 65 per cent on their books. Flynn said the interests of the biggest, so-called money centre banks and those of the regionals were very divergent in continued lending to the Third World. Since the foreign debt crisis erupted in 1982, banks have been dealing with the problem by lending new money to indebted nations could service interest payments. But last year debtors and creditors became more open to a so-called menu of options, including exit bonds, debt-equity swaps, and a new Mexican bond swap plan.

"The old collective vision in dealing with the debt crisis was the banks, the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank pushing together," Geoffrey Bell, chairman of London-based Guinness Mahon Bank, told the conference. "Now we are seeing people go in different directions." Starting in May, Citicorp made a large addition to its developing-country debt reserve, pressuring others to do the same.

In December, regional US banks began a second round of reserve additions.

Austria imports more oil products than crude

VIENNA, Jan 16, (Opecna): During January-November 1987, Austria imported 26.2 per cent more oil products but 29 per cent less crude oil, compared to the same period last year, according to a report by the Central Statistical Authority.

Opec oil accounts for the bulk of Austrian energy requirements. Its share in the first three quarters of the year was 67 per cent.

The report said import of solid fuels declined by 11.4 per cent over the same period, while that of natural gas, mostly from the Soviet Union, increased by 4.7 per cent.

Austria's trade with the 13 Opec countries represented only 2.2 per cent of its imports and 2.9 per cent of its exports. Austrian imports of commodities and services from Opec countries dropped by 5.2 per cent to \$677 million, compared with the same period a year earlier, while Austrian exports to the group reached \$739 million, a decline of 27.7 per cent, leaving a balance of more than 62 million in favour of Austria.

Third World countries increased their purchases from Austria by 14.2 per cent and Opec countries by 20.8 per cent.

Dutch to grant \$103m aid

THE HAGUE, Jan 16, (Reuters): The Netherlands has decided to grant a total of 205 million guilders (\$103 million) in special import aid to 11 countries, a spokesman for the Dutch Development Ministry said yesterday. The aid is aimed at giving foreign currency to countries that have made efforts to restructure their economies according to International Monetary Fund guidelines, but still suffer from a serious current accounts deficit, the spokesman said. Egypt, Ghana, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Senegal, Tanzania, Sri Lanka, Bolivia and Jamaica are each to receive grants of 10 to 30 million guilders (\$5 to 20 million) under the programme, spokesman Frans Naef said. All but four countries — Egypt, Bolivia, Sri Lanka, and Jamaica — have received similar grants in the past, he added. The Netherlands each year budgets about 5 billion guilders (\$2.7 billion), equal to 1.5 per cent of its net national income, for development aid.

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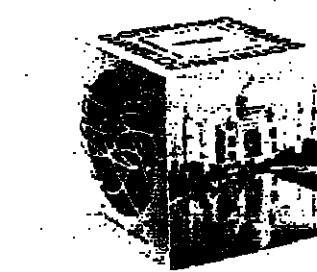
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Edberg and Wilander reach last 16



Edberg: to meet Stollenberg

MELBOURNE, Jan 16. (Reuters) Stefan Edberg and Mats Wilander led four Swedish seeds into the last 16 of the singles at the Australian Open tennis championships today.

Edberg, a former world junior champion, set up a clash with current world junior number one Jason Stoltenberg of Australia when he overcame American Dan Goldie in a tough 6-4 7-5 6-3 third round centre court showdown.

Drop
Second-seeded Edberg was given his biggest scare so far when he lost six straight games to drop the third set.

"I don't know what happened," said Edberg. "My game went right down and I didn't feel as if I was in the match for a while."

Edberg, winner of the last two Australian Opens, cruised through the first two sets but then lost the rhythm on his serve as Goldie turned up the heat.

It was not until the eighth game of the fourth set, when he broke after a five-deuce game, that Edberg regained control.

Ranked 330 in the world, Stoltenberg beat American Joey Rive

6-2 6-2 6-2 and immediately announced he was looking forward to playing Edberg.
"It will be a great experience," he said. "I have never played anyone ranked that high before and to get this far in a Grand Slam tournament is a bonus in itself."

I will go out against Stefan and just play my own game. There is no reason to change it."

Third-seeded Wilander had a much easier task than Edberg, beating compatriot Magnus Gustafsson, winning 6-1 6-4 6-1.

Anders Jarryd, the tournament's sixth seed, and 13th-seeded Catarina Lindqvist completed the quarter of Swedish winners.

Jarryd, attempting to fight his way back into the top 10 after overcoming a series of leg injuries, beat little known American Paul Chamberlin 7-5 6-1 6-2 and Lindqvist was far too strong for American Robin White, grinding out a 6-1 6-4 win.

World number one Steffi Graf and defending women's champion Hana Mandlikova also completed expected victories with West German unknown Carl-Uwe Steeb notching the only surprise.

Steeb, ranked 51 in the world, upset the eighth-seeded Slobodan Zivojinovic 6-4 7-5 6-1 6-3 despite the Yugoslav's 18 aces.

Graf had too many guns for American Cammy MacGregor, winning 6-1 6-2 in a methodical display that did not reach the heights of her second round annihilation of Australian Janine Thompson.

Results

Jason Stoltenberg (Australia) beat Joey Rive (US) 6-2 6-2 6-2. Lori McNeil (US) beat Jancy Byrne (Australia) 6-4 6-2. Radka Zrubakov (Czechoslovakia) beat Emiko Okagawa (Japan) 6-0 6-0. Pam Shriver (US) beat Nicole Jagerman (Netherlands) 6-3 6-2. Anne Minter (Australia) beat Carol Christian (US) 6-1 6-4. Anders Jarryd (Sweden) beat Paul Chamberlin (US) 7-5 6-1 6-2. Catarina Lindqvist (Sweden) beat Robin White (US) 6-1 6-4. Mats Wilander (Sweden) beat Magnus Gustafsson (Sweden) 6-1 6-4. Claudia Kohde-Kilsch (West Germany) beat Melissa Brown (US) 6-0 6-1. Stefan Edberg (Sweden) beat Dan Goldie (US) 6-4 7-5 6-3. Carl-Uwe Steeb (West Germany) beat Slobodan Zivojinovic (Yugoslavia) 6-4 7-5 6-1 6-3. John Frawley (Australia) beat Jim Grabb (US) 6-3 6-2 6-7 (4-7) 6-4. Hana Mandlikova (Australia) beat Catherine Tanvier (France) 6-4 6-1. Andrei Chesnokov (Soviet Union) beat Mark Kratzmann (Australia) 7-5 7-6 (7-6) 6-2.

Arguments mark India-W. Indies series

MADRAS, India, Jan 16. (Reuters) Arguments over pitches, swearing and accusations of intimidatory bowling marked the four-match Test series between India and West Indies.

But it ended yesterday with a spectacular performance by 19-year-old spinner Narendra Hirwani, who took a record haul of 16 wickets on his Test debut, albeit on a highly suspect pitch.

Success

The 225-run victory was India's first success against the West Indies since 1979.

The series ended 1-1, a disappointment for the West Indian side after their poor World Cup showing last year.

Yet it had started well for the tourists. They won the first Test in New Delhi by five wickets, after skidding India out for 75 — their lowest total in Tests between the two countries.

But this game, like many Tests on the Indian sub-continent con-

tained debatable umpiring decisions, with West Indies unhappy over the five low decisions given against them.

Disputes surfaced again after a rain-affected draw in the second Test in Bombay.

Fast bowlers Patrick Patterson and Courtney Walsh dismissed India for 173 in their second innings with liberal use of bouncers, and West Indies captain Viv Richards told reporters his pacemen were only answering Indian tactics.

"We play according to what we get. The guys retaliated a bit," Richards said.

Indian skipper Dilip Vengsarkar was upset about an Indian cricket board announcement that he might be fined or sacked for writing articles about Test matches while playing in them.

"I didn't expect these statements during the match — it does put pressure on our players," he said after the game.

The issue was shelved but not resolved by an injury to Vengsarkar which put him out of the final match.

Controversy continued in the drawn third Test in Calcutta, where both teams amassed over 500 runs on a placid pitch in their first innings.

India's Mohammad Azharuddin, who made 60, survived two confident appeals for his dismissal, leading to a bitter row between umpire Pilloo Reporter and Richards.

Appeal
An Indian official alleged that Richards used "filthy language" after the umpire rejected an appeal for a catch off the bowling of Walsh, and followed it with angry words when Reporter rejected an lbw appeal the very next ball.

But these incidents paled beside Hirwani's performance on a Madras pitch which West

Indies manager Jackie Hendricks described as "a disgrace, a minefield."

The climax of the controversy-racked tour was an astonishing piece of leg-break bowling by Hirwani on a pitch which brought a formal West Indies complaint.

Hirwani, from Indore in central India, became only the second bowler to claim 16 wickets on his Test debut, emulating the feat of Australia's Bob Massie against England at Lords in 1972. His figures of 16 for 136, marginally better than Massie's (16 for 137) shot him into the record books.

Hirwani, belying his inexperience, cleverly exploited a pitch where the ball turned virtually square, bagging eight wickets in each innings.

Only two men, England's Jim Laker and Sidney Barnes, have ever returned better match figures in a Test.

Pakistani Test players appeal to Imran

ISLAMABAD, Jan 16. (Reuters) Eight Pakistani Test players, including Javed Miandad and Abdul Qadir, have appealed to former cricket captain Imran Khan to come out of retirement.

The official APP news agency said late yesterday the eight issued a statement appealing to the charismatic all-rounder to lead his country on the forthcoming tour of the West Indies.

Imran, 35, bowled out of international cricket in November after the World Cup and has resisted increasingly desperate pleas from fans and officials to come out of retirement.

Wanted

Star batsman Miandad took over and was captain for the troubled England tour in November and December. But he then quit, saying he wanted to concentrate on his batting.

The eight players said Imran had moulded the side into a winning combination, winning Test series in England and against traditional rivals India.

They called on him to help beat West Indies in their own backyard.

Apart from Miandad and spin-wizard Qadir, the other six were opening batsmen Rameez Raja and Mudassar Nazar, Salim Malik, Shoaib Mohammad, wicketkeeper Salim Yousuf and pace bowler Zakir Khan.

Shield cricket

SYDNEY, Jan 16. (Reuters) Second day close scores in Sheffield Shield cricket matches:

In Devonport: Tasmania 111, South Australia 358 for seven (D. Hookes 132, W. Phillips 85 D. Liliec 4-71).

In Perth: Queensland 303 (G. Ritchie 76, I. Botham 70, R. Kerr 59 P. Capes four for 87, T. Alderman four for 87) Western Australia 236 for five (G. Wood 61).

Kiwis qualify for World Series finals

BRISBANE, Australia, Jan 16. (Reuters) New Zealand, fined for slow play, beat Sri Lanka by four wickets with 11 balls to spare in the latest World Series Cup match today.

The result, revenge for a surprise defeat by the tournament's whipping boys in Hobart four days ago, guaranteed the New Zealanders a place in the finals with Australia.

The two play tomorrow in what now amounts to a dress rehearsal for the best-of-three finals.

Fined

Set 165 to win, New Zealand made 167 for six, Richard Hadlee notching the winning runs with a lofted on-drive.

New Zealand, however, were fined \$1,300 for bowling only 39 of the allotted 43 overs in the rain-shortened match.

Sent in to bat, Sri Lankan openers Brendon Kuruppu and Roshan Mahanama put on 52 for the first wicket before Mahanama was caught behind for 12.

Kuruppu went on to make top score of 47, but tight bowling by Hadlee and Ewen Chatfield generally kept Sri Lanka in check, although Kuruppu and Aravinda de Silva (25) did add a quickfire 43 in 29 minutes.

New Zealand started badly,

losing opener Ken Rutherford for one, but Martin Crowe, run out for 43, and Hadlee, with an unbeaten 21, steered them home.

Scoreboard

SRI LANKA innings
B. Kuruppu c Patel b Morrison 47
R. Mahanama c Blain b Chatfield 12
A. Gurusinghe run out 0
P.A. de Silva run out 25
A. Ranatunga run out 25
R. Madugalle c Blain b Morrison 5
A. Samarasekera c Sreedeen b Chatfield 18
R. Ratnayake not out 15
G. de Alwis c Rutherford b Chatfield 2
C. Labrooy not out 2
Extras (lb-9 nb-2 w-12) 23
Total (for eight wickets, 39 overs) 164
Fall of wickets: 1-52 2-54 3-97 4-103 5-111 6-139 7-142 8-148
Bowling: Hadlee 9-1-25-0, Morrison 6-0-39-2, Chatfield 5-2-27-3, Gillespie 8-0-39-0, Sreedeen 7-0-25-0.
NEW ZEALAND innings
K. Rutherford b Labrooy 1
J. Wright c Ranatunga b Ramanayake 22
A. Jones c de Alwis b Ranatunga 29
M. Crowe run out 43
B. Patel c Ranatunga b Ramanayake 17
T. Blain b Ranatunga 17
R. Hadlee not out 21
M. Sreedeen not out 15
Extras (b-2 lb-5 nb-1 w-10) 18
Total (for six wickets, 37 overs) 167
Fall of wickets: 1-1 2-43 3-78 4-96 5-122 6-139
Bowling: Ratnayake 7.1-0-40-0, Labrooy 8-1-32-1, Ramanayake 8-2-28-2, Samarasekera 3-0-18-0, Ranatunga 8-0-35-2, P.A. de Silva 3-1-7-0.



Gatting wants to forget Pakistan umpire row

WELLINGTON, Jan 16. (Reuters) England cricket captain Mike Gatting today shrugged off a report by a Pakistani inquiry commission which called his behaviour in the second Test in Faisalabad unacceptable.

Gatting, recently arrived in New Zealand for the start of England's latest tour, said he wanted to forget the whole affair.

"It doesn't surprise me what they said. It's all been done. Everyone's written up about it and everyone can have their own opinions," he said in a telephone interview from Christchurch.

"I've really got nothing to say about it — it's all been said as far as I'm concerned and I just want to forget about it."

The report, made public at a news conference in Lahore yesterday, also said that tour manager Peter Lush's criticisms of the umpiring after the first of the three Tests had raised tension.

Finished
Lush told a news conference shortly after the team arrived in Christchurch yesterday that he did not want the matter to go any further.

"As far as I'm concerned, and everybody else here, the Pakistan tour is finished, dead and buried and all that occurred there," Lush said.

The report was compiled by a two-man inquiry commission appointed by the Pakistani cricket board. It criticised Pakistani umpire Shakoor Rana for becoming involved in a slanging match with Gatting in the second Test but kept his harshest words for Gatting.

"Mr. Gatting's conduct, irrespective of the provocation, amounted to unacceptable behaviour and cannot be condoned. His conduct went beyond dissent and damaged the dignity and authority of the umpire," it said.

The quarrel came close to causing the cancellation of the Pakistan tour and has left a lot of bad feeling between the two countries' cricketing establishments.

Shakoor refused to continue until Gatting apologised and more than a day's play was lost before he obliged, under orders from England's Test and County Cricket Board.

Yesterday Lush confirmed that Gatting had received a letter of regret from Shakoor but it had not been made public because it did not amount to an apology.

The trouble began during the first Test in November in Lahore, won by Pakistan. A number of umpiring decisions were disputed bitterly by the England batsmen and in one incident opener Chris Broad refused to leave the field for a time after being given out.

Pre-planned
Lush reacted later to a comment from the Pakistani cricket board president Ghulam Safdar Butt, who said it appeared England's "moaning and groaning in Pakistan was pre-planned."

Lush said: "It's disappointing to see such a suggestion made. England teams just don't do that sort of thing."

"My understanding of the inquiry was that it was on the basis of a fully confidential report, the findings of which would not be made public without consultation with the Test and County Cricket Board."

"It was also understood that the report would have recommendations aimed at stopping future incidents with no attempt to apportion blame."

Cuba to stay away from Seoul Games

LAUSANNE, Switzerland, Jan 16. (Reuters) Cuba said yesterday it would not compete in the Olympic Games in South Korea, as four more countries, including other Soviet allies Vietnam and Czechoslovakia, accepted invitations to attend.

Communist Cuba's stay-away decision was announced in Havana by the president of the Cuban Olympic Committee, Manuel Gonzalez Guerra.

Acceptance by Vietnam, Czechoslovakia, Madagascar and Tanzania for the 1988 Summer Olympic Games in Seoul was announced in Lausanne by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) yesterday.

Their decisions brought to a record 160 the number of nations which have confirmed they will attend the Games.

Johnson runs world 50-yard best

HAMILTON, Ontario, Jan 16. (Reuters) Canadian sprinter Ben Johnson powered his way to a world indoor best in the 50-yard dash last night, winning in 5.20 seconds at the Hamilton Spectator Indoor Games.

Johnson's time eclipsed the previous world record of 5.22 seconds, set on Jan 22, 1982 by American Stanley Floyd.

Johnson holds the world record over 100-metres outdoors at 9.83 seconds and also holds world indoor record holder over 50 metres, with a poor start and finished third in 5.87. Jamaica's Juliet Cuthbert was second in 5.84.

Canada's Julie Rocheleau won the women's 50-metre hurdles in 6.84 over compatriot Karen Nelson who turned in a 6.89 clocking. American Kim Turner-McKenzie was third in 7.04.

"I'm very surprised I ran that fast," Johnson said with a giggle. "I've been doing a lot of travelling the past six, seven weeks. I'm very pleased with my time."

"Things are coming into place right now. This is my first race of the season," he added. "To break a world record, it looks good for the summer."

In the men's 50-metre hurdles, Mark McKoy of Canada finished the event in 6.52, the same time as American Roger Kingdom but Kingdom was given first place by virtue of a photo finish.

American Tomie Campbell was third in 6.57.

Billy Olson of the United States won the pole vault with a leap of 5.60 metres in front of 11,114 spectators.

Milt Ottey of Canada won the men's high jump with a leap of 2.28 metres. American Jimmy Howard was second.

Romania's Doina Melinta, the 1984 Olympic champion over 800 metres and silver medalist over 1,500, captured the women's 1,500 in a hand-timed 4:18.6.

American Alisa Harvey was second in 4:19.8 and Canadian Debbie Bowker, who gave up the lead with two laps remaining, was third in 4:20.4.

Kuwait car rally intended as ultimate test of driver

By Gail Seery

FRIDAY'S Kuwait car rally was intended primarily as a test of driving skill and ability, and not as a car breaker. Two stages were chosen to be run in both directions, offering drivers four different routes, within a compact area. Clerk of the Course Wael Khoury said that he had gone round the route refining it, so that the ultimate test would be to the driver and not to the car.

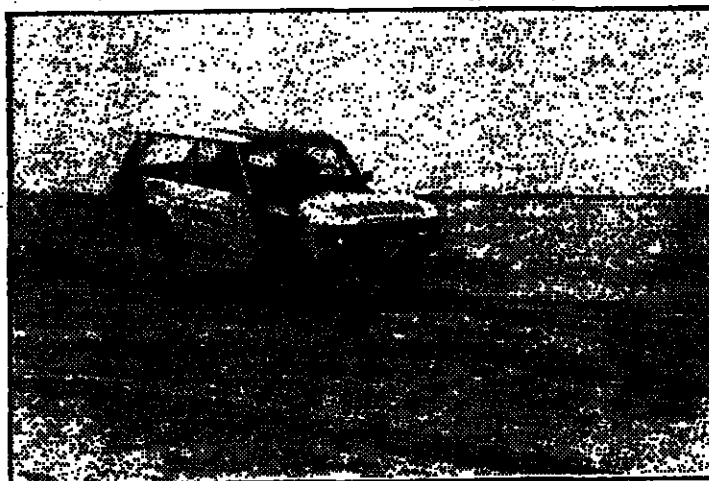
Although some 26 drivers completed the first stage out of the 29 who set out, not one car was damaged beyond repair in the course of the rally.

Controls

The first stage ran through the quarry area at Madwa, and started out very twisty and narrow; later the stage opened out and was bumpy and fast with some nasty hairpins. On this stage there were around 9 to 10 passage controls, as the organisers had made it clear that there would be a clampdown on cheating. To this end, they are still examining some times which look surprisingly fast.

The stage had to be covered three times in a clockwise direction, and then twice in a reverse order. By the third time through, the sand was getting very cut up in places with ridges of about 1/2 metre in places on the track, cut by the rally cars. From the comparative safety of the 4wd Pajero, we were surprised that any of the near standard saloon cars were getting through at all.

The situation was no better on the other stage. This was 16km



Tareq Al Wazzan: on Stage 2

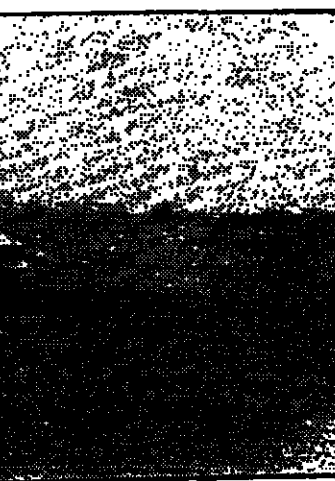


Eid Faleh: makes a landing

long, and though very fast in places, also contained tight bends and hairpins and areas of soft sand, which again was

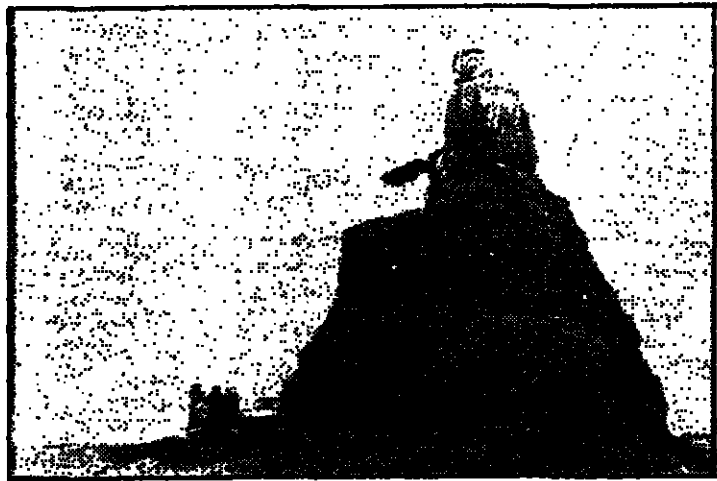


A lone spectator finds the best place to watch the rally.

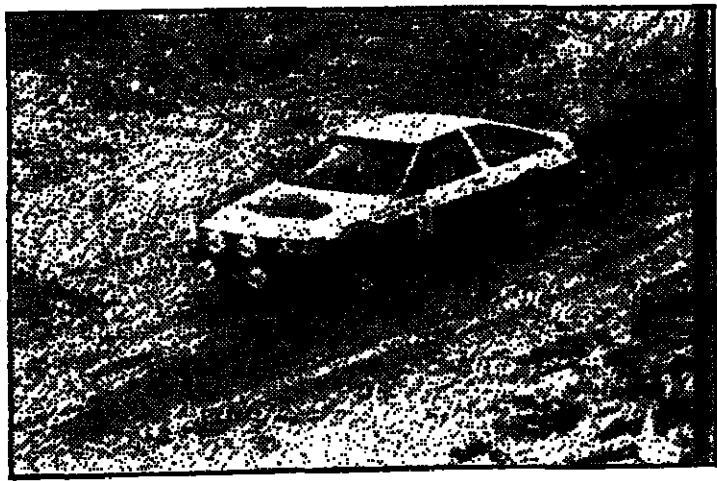


Ahmed Al Hilal: on way to victory

ploughed into ridges by the rally vehicles. Both stages took their toll, presenting drivers with pun-



Ahmed Al Hilal: on way to victory



Ahmed Al Hilal: on way to victory

tures, and broken steering, as well as a boot in flames and gearbox problems. Shock absorbers were in great demand, as car sus-

pensions were stretched to the limit.

Stage one was 10.5 km in length, and the fastest times were in

the region of 7 minutes. When the stage was covered in reverse, the times were generally a little longer. On the 16km stage 2, the fastest times were between 9 and a half and ten minutes.

A good number of spectators journeyed into the desert to watch along with those already camping there. The motorsports division was also well supported by helpers willing to stand in the freezing cold and at times, rain.

These marshals are the unsung heroes of the rallies, and without them an event could not take place. Everyone was cheerful and friendly, and performed their tasks efficiently and capably. They were under the control of Jack Lubat as Chief Marshall. Again, the times were produced on computer for the first time, and though there were delays, it has to be said that a much fuller set of results has now been produced.


For a first rally for the new committee, Friday's rally was very well organised, and is hopefully, the start of still better things to come. Wael Khoury and his assistant Jim Goldsworthy should be congratulated.

Points in Kuwait Drivers Championship after 1 round

1. Ahmed Al Hilal 24 points
2. Tareq Al Wazzan 19 points
3. Faez Chihab 16 points
4. Ahmed Al Nasser 14 points
5. Tareq Alyan 13 points

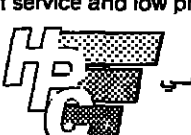
Points in Kuwait Co-Drivers Championship after 1 round

1. Fahad Al Rashed 24 points
2. Khaled Khalifa 19 points
3. Hanan Al Shanteer 16 points
4. A. Al Khamis 14 points
5. Khaloud Alyan 13 points.



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SPORTS

Quezon City improve position

QUEZON CITY were awarded maximum points in their game against Navotas when their opponents failed to turn up at the First Non-Pro Filipino Bowling League game on Thursday the Club 300.

With these four points, Quezon City improved their position in the standings and moved up to 10th place.

In the meantime, Edwin Nepomuceno of the Valenzuela team took the honours in the Men's High Game with a score of 217 pinfalls. In the Men's High Game, Bob Peek of Manila scored a total of 584 pinfalls to clinch the top place.

Gloria Estandarte of Pasay City rolled 204 pinfalls to set a new mark in the Women's High Game, breaking the old record of 201. She became the second woman bowler to join the 200 Club.

Baby Militante of Mandaluyong captured the Women's High Series with a score of 496. Tony Lacion of Pasay City and Roger Sabado of Calocan City took the Men's High Average games with scores of 179 and 177 respectively. In the Women's High Average, Gloria Estandarte and Tonette Arizabal of Manila came out on top with scores of 164 and 158 respectively.

In the other games held this week, Manila downed Paranaque 4-0, Pasay City crushed Malabon 4-0, Calocan City beat Marikina 3-1, Pasig defeated Valenzuela 3-1 and Mandaluyong thrashed Makati-GMBH 4-0.

Calocan retained the lead in the standings with an average of 823. Manila are second, Pasay City third, Pasig fourth, Las Pinas fifth and Mandaluyong sixth.

NBA games

NEW YORK, Jan 16, (Reuters): Results of National Basketball Association (NBA) games played yesterday (only games scheduled): Philadelphia 119 New York 104; Boston 122 Sacramento 86; Detroit 97 Cleveland 93; Indiana 112 San Antonio 108; Seattle 124 Utah 105; Golden State 123 Clippers 116.

ALDRIDGE AND BEARDSLEY SCORE FOR LEADERS

Liverpool stretch unbeaten run to 23

LONDON, Jan 16, (Reuters): John Aldridge, the man Liverpool signed to replace Ian Rush, scored his 20th goal of the season in a 2-0 win against Arsenal today as the English First Division leaders stretched their unbeaten run to 23 games.

And while Rush continues to struggle in Italy, Aldridge, who cost £850,000 (\$1.5 million) from Oxford, maintained his excellent scoring record with a 45th minute goal seen by a television audience of 250 million in 55 countries.

Best

Although Aldridge received the acclaim of the crowd, Steve McMahon — the best uncapped player in England — was the architect behind the move when he controlled an awkward ball on the right touchline and evaded a sliding tackle in one motion.

McMahon then released England forward Peter Beardsley with a perfectly-weighted chipped pass and although Arsenal goalkeeper John Lukic saved his stinging drive, Aldridge was handily placed to turn the ball into the net.

Beardsley later put his name on the scoreline with a superb solo goal on the hour when he picked up a loose ball 10 metres outside the Arsenal penalty area.

twisted past two scything tackles and flicked an audacious chip over Lukic's head.

The result lifted Liverpool's points haul to 59, 15 more than second-placed Nottingham Forest and, with 17 games remaining, the odds are shortening on the champions-elect completing the 40-match programme unbeaten.

Forest dropped two points when they were held to a 2-2 draw at home by second bottom club Charlton, Robert Lee's and Andy Jones's late goals for the visitors cancelling out earlier efforts by Calvin Plummer and Neil Webb.

Everton, the 1987 champions, took advantage of Arsenal's defeat — and Manchester United's undistinguished 2-0 home loss to Southampton — to move into third place by virtue of an excellent 3-0 victory at Norwich.

Graeme Sharp scored twice and Adrian Heath notched the other but, despite their fine form of late, Everton must fast be losing all hope of making up the 16-point gap which separates them from Liverpool.

The feeling of doom and gloom Liverpool are spreading throughout the ranks of their rivals will be particularly intense.



Aldridge: 20th goal

sive in the magnificent oak-panelled manager's room at Old Trafford where Alex Ferguson is under mounting pressure.

Goals from Southampton striker Colin Clarke in the sixth and 74th minutes sent Manchester United tumbling to defeat and a team which can boast the combined talents of Jesper Olsen, Bryan Robson, Norman Whiteside and Gordon Strachan now lie a distant 17 points adrift of Liverpool.

Results

English Division One
Liverpool 2 Arsenal 0

Luton	1	Derby	0	Scottish Premier Division	
Manchester U	0	Southampton	2	Aberdeen	1
Norwich	0	Everton	3	Hibernian	0
Notts Forest	2	Charlton	2	Celtic	3
Portsmouth	2	Oxford	2	Dundee	0
QPR	0	West Ham	1	Falkirk	0
Sheffield Wed	3	Chelsea	0	Rangers	1
Tottenham	2	Coventry	2	Motherwell	2
Wimbledon	1	Watford	2	Scottish Division One	
English Division Two				Dumbarton	0
Aston Villa	1	Ipswich	*0	Hamilton	1
Blackburn	2	Hull	1	Kilmarnock	3
Bournemouth	1	Sheff Utd	2	Meadowbank	3
Crystal P	1	Huddersfield	1	Partick	0
Leeds	0	Barnsley	2	Raith	2
Millwall	2	Middlesbrough	1	Scottish Division Two	
Oldham	2	West Bromwich	1	Arbroath	2
Plymouth	2	Manchester C	2	Brechin	2
Shrewsbury	0	Leicester	0	Cowdenbeath	1
Stoke	3	Birmingham	0	St Johnstone	2
Swindon	3	Bradford	0	Berwick	1
(Abandoned after 73 minutes — fog)				Stirling	0
English Division Three				Stranraer	1
Aldershot	0	Bury	2	Queen's Park	2
Blackpool	0	Brentford	1	Albion	2
Bristol City	2	Notts County	1		
Chesham	0	Doncaster	1		
Fulham	1	Port Vale	2		
Grimsby	2	Chesham	1		
Northampton	2	Bristol R	1		
Rotherham	2	Preston	2		
Sunderland	1	Brighton	0		
Wigan	3	Walsall	1		
York	0	Gillingham	2		
English Division Four					
Bolton	1	Torquay	2		
Cambridge	2	Barnley	0		
Carlisle	0	Cardiff	0		
Leyton O	1	Crew	1		
Newport	1	Southport	1		
Rochdale	0	Exeter	0		
Swansea	3	Scarborough	0		
Wolves	1	Stockport	1		
Wrexham	3	Peterborough	1		

Rakad scores another win

A SECOND triumph by Lieutenant Rakad Al Dophereat at the Dubai Horse Show yesterday added to Kuwaiti celebrations as the biggest showjumping event in the Middle East headed for a thrilling climax.

With his intentions clear from the start, Rakad sped around the jump-off course on Liwice in the Port Rashid Authority Intermediate Open Stakes for a superb clear round in 34.33 seconds.

Followed

That was enough to see him home, despite a gallant attempt by Kuwait's Lymya Al Essa, who went last on Excite and almost snatched victory with a flawless round in 34.79.

The 17-year-old schoolgirl finished runner-up ahead of Oman's Khan Mohammed, who was followed by two other Kuwaiti riders, Tariq Shuaib on Brigadier and Hamed Daboos riding Freckles.

Li Al Dophereat's win was loudly acclaimed by the vociferous Kuwaiti contingent, who have had plenty to cheer at the Dubai Metropolitan Hotel arena, where the Dunhill Cup was bringing the action to a close late last night.

The accomplished rider from the Kuwait Military Sports Association had also come out on top in the Al Bayan Speed and Handiness Stakes on the opening day of the ten-nation show.

Kuwait looked to be heading for another one-two success yesterday until the UAE's Shemma Abdullah Abulhoul produced a brilliant performance on Sheikh Saeed Bin Maktoum Al Maktoum's Golden Guinea in the Dubai Duty Free Junior Grand Prix.

The small but determined rider from Dubai saw Dina Al Baijan go clear in 36.06 on Caravan in the jump-off, and then watched Mohamed Alragam move into second place on Calle with another faultless performance in 37.68.

Results

Port Rashid Authority Intermediate Open Stakes: 1. Lt Rakad Al Dophereat (Kuwait); 2. Lymya Al Essa (Kuwait); 3. Khan Mohammed (Oman); 4. Tariq Shuaib (Kuwait); 5. Hamed Daboos (Kuwait); 6. Kamille Ziri (UAE) Amira.

Dubai Duty Free Junior Grand Prix: 1. Shemma Abdullah Abulhoul (UAE) Golden Guinea; 2. Dina Al Baijan (Kuwait) Caravan; 3. Mohamed Alragam (Kuwait) Calle; 4. Khalid Abdul Karim (UAE) Tia Maria; 5. Debbie Godsave (UAE) Hakim.

Vatnen retains lead

LEMJEBIR, Mali, Jan 16, (Reuters): Three punctures and a maze of sand dunes gave Finland's Ari Vatnen his most difficult day yet as leader of the Paris-Dakar rally yesterday.

Vatnen finished the 698-km 15th day's run from Tessalit to Lemjebir in Northern Mali two-and-a-half hours behind the stage winner, Patrick Tambay of France, the former Formula One driver.

Tambay's win was the first in this year's 22-day event for

Range Rover, hot favourites before competitors set off on the 13,000-km race from Paris to the Senegalese capital of Dakar.

A guide aircraft was sent from Tessalit to assist many vehicles through a blinding series of high sand dunes. Tambay was one of only a handful of drivers to navigate the obstacle successfully.

The non-works Mitsubishi of Jean da Silva was second with Kenyan Gerard Miller third in a Range Rover.

France overcome England

PARIS, Jan 16, (Reuters): World Cup finalists France, Grand Slam champions last year, snatched a highly fortunate 10-9 victory over brave underdogs England in the opening match of the Five Nations Rugby Union Championship today.

England, not given the ghost of a chance before the match, confounded all predictions and outplayed the Five Nations champions for most of the game,

leading 9-3 with 10 minutes to go.

But a penalty by Philippe Berot and a 73rd minute try by Laurent Rodriguez, who pounced on an England error in defence, swung the match for France after England had looked set to record their first victory at the Parc des Princes stadium since 1982.

And in Dublin, Ireland beat Scotland 22-18 (halftime 10-6) in their opening match today.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Monte Carlo rally underway

MONTE CARLO, Jan 16, (Reuters): Sixty-two cars left Monaco a noon today for the start of the Monte Carlo rally, opening round of the 1988 world rally championship. Around 120 crews left four other European towns — Bad Homburg in West Germany, Barcelona in Spain, Lausanne in Switzerland and Sestriere in Italy — for the 600 km non-competitive haul to Saint Etienne in central France from where the event begins in earnest tomorrow.

Sportscar designer Donald Healey dies

LONDON, Jan 16, (Reuters): Donald Healey, designer of Britain's famous Austin-Healey sports cars, has died at the age of 89, his family said today.

Walliser leads Figini in World Cup

ZINAL, Switzerland, Jan 16, (AP): Defending champion Maria Walliser came from behind to edge Michela Figini in a 1-2-3 Swiss sweep of a women's World Cup downhill race today.

Classic cars leave Hong Kong for China

HONG KONG, Jan 16, (AP): Twenty-three vintage cars departed from Hong Kong for the mountain city of Guilin in southwest China for the Marrell Classic Car China Rally.

Mexican GP to be held in May

MEXICO CITY, Jan 16, (Reuters): The 1988 Mexican Formula One Grand Prix auto race will be held on May 2 and not on June 5 as originally announced, race organiser Jose Abel said yesterday.

Challenge an ambush, says Conner

NEW YORK, Jan 16, (Reuters): America's Cup skipper Dennis Conner yesterday accused Michael Fay of trying to stack the deck in New Zealand's favour and called his 1988 challenge a 'legalised ambush' of yachting's most prestigious trophy.

Pate retains one-stroke lead

CARLSBAD, California, Jan 16, (Reuters): Steve Pate shot his second consecutive round of six-under-par 66 yesterday for a 12-under-par 132 total and retained his one-stroke lead in \$500,000 Tournament of Champions.

Ardiles turns down offer

LONDON, Jan 16, (AP): English star Ossie Ardiles said yesterday he had turned down an offer to play for a Florida team in a new North American Soccer League. Ardiles said he had decided to stay with First Division Tottenham Hotspur rather than sign with the Fort Lauderdale Strikers.

Italian League upholds decision

MILAN, Jan 16, (Reuters): The Italian Soccer League yesterday upheld an earlier decision to reverse AC Milan's 1-0 First Division victory over Roma last December because of an incident in which Roma goalkeeper Franco Tancredi was almost killed.



● Ehsan Abbasi (left) and Ali Imran (right) winners of the Hussain Ghuloom Memorial Bridge tournament, receive their prizes from Ibrahim Ghuloom.

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Published by:
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Editor-in-Chief
Ahmed Al Jarallah

Editorial Office:
Airport Road, Shuwaikh.
P.O. Box 2270,
13023 Safat, Kuwait.

Telex:
22332 KT

Telephones:
4813566 (main lines)

Advertising:
4816326/7

Annual Subscriptions:
Individuals: KD 45/-
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Departments: KD 90/-
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